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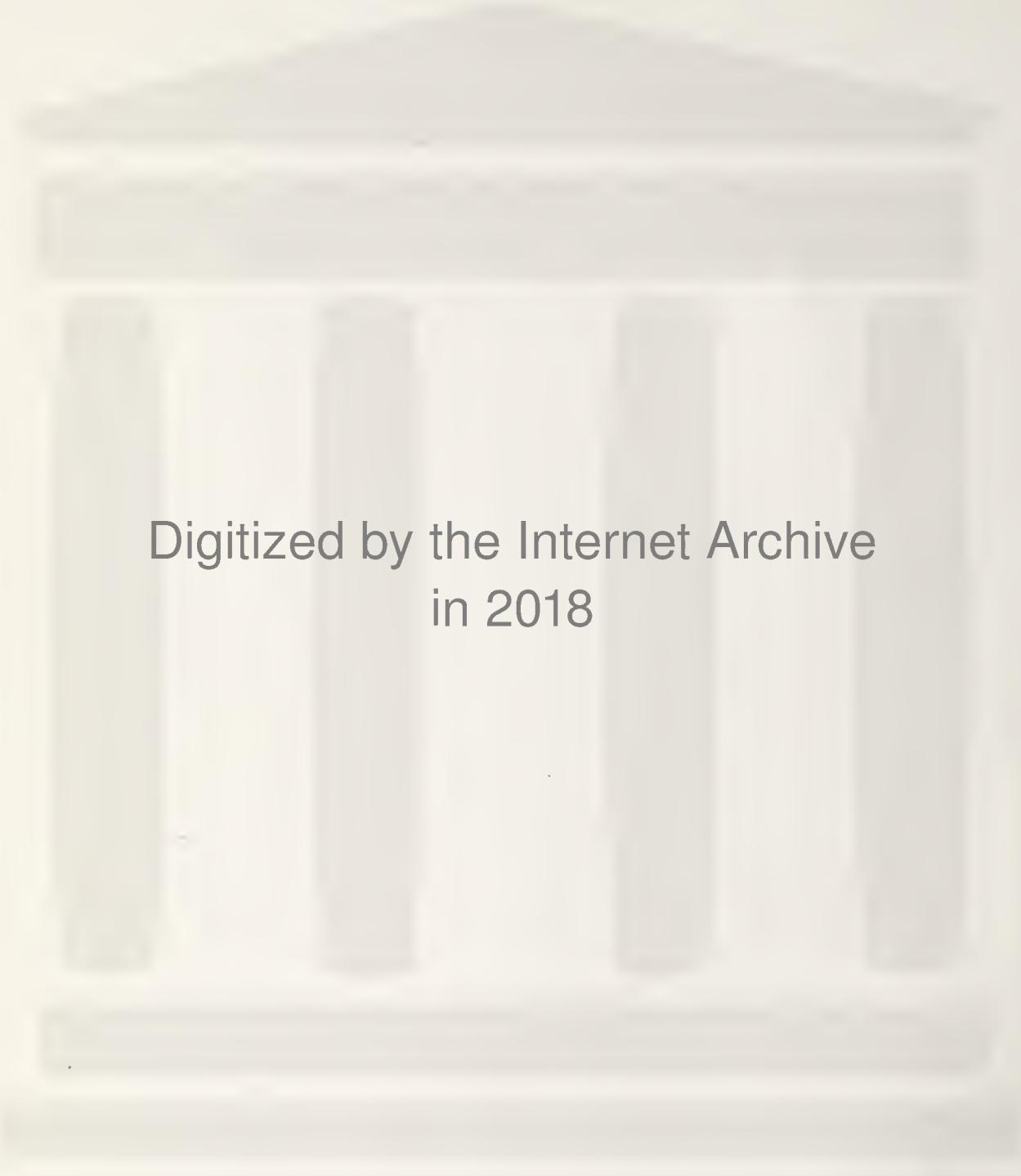
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THE JAMES MCMURRY DUNN FAMILY OF TEXAS AND KENTUCKY

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The Migration of Their Ancestors from County Derry, Northern Ireland,  
to Pennsylvania, Thence to the Province of Maryland,  
and Their Further Migration to Kentucky  
and Texas

By William Edward Dunn, Ph. D.

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Published Privately by Wm. E. and James L. Dunn

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Affectionately Dedicated to the Memory of Their Parents

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This is a Preliminary Edition of 100 Copies Subject to  
Further Revision and Additions

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Washington, D.C., July, 1960



## THE JAMES LEWIS DUNN FAMILY OF TEXAS AND KENTUCKY

Preliminary Edition of July, 1960

Errata and Additions.

<u>Page</u>	<u>Line</u>	
111	21	For Mrs. <u>Arthur</u> Sears Frye read <u>Archie</u>
28	15	Delete <u>in his will</u> <u>sr.</u> (William Dunn left no will)
32	12	For <u>now</u> read <u>not</u>
36	10	For <u>deceased</u> read <u>deceased</u>
42	6	For Jan. <u>12</u> , 1912 read Jan. <u>22</u> , 1912
	10	For Dec. <u>12</u> , 1757 read Dec. <u>1</u> , 1757
	18	For Feb. <u>5</u> , 1857 read Feb. <u>4</u> , 1857
	21	For <u>Mary</u> Anne read <u>Sally</u> Anne
	46	For Aug. <u>9</u> , 1899 read Aug. <u>9</u> , 1889
44	34	Delete: "These were all of the Augustine Dunn line."
100	20	For <u>he</u> read <u>her</u>
119	30	For <u>Plainview</u> read <u>Crystal City</u>
121	3	Insert death date of J. M. Dunn: <u>March 5, 1928</u>
	30	Insert birth date of Linda Tays Dunn: <u>January 23, 1823</u>
	32	Insert birth date of Flora Reese Dunn: <u>June 15, 1897</u>
122	11	For <u>24th</u> St. N.W. read <u>44th</u> Street, N.W. and add: "After Oct. 15, 1960, address will be c/o American Embassy, Guatemala City, Guatemala."
	13	Insert Birth place of James Lewis Dunn, Jr.: <u>Port Arthur, Texas</u>
	14	After March 3, 1946 insert: <u>in San Antonio, Texas</u>
	15	After 1947 insert: <u>now living in Lake Jackson, Texas</u>
	16	Insert birth place of George William Dunn: <u>Port Arthur, Texas</u>
	17	For <u>Clare</u> Bevier read <u>Esther</u> <u>Clare</u> Bevier
	18	After <u>Texas</u> insert: <u>on June 15, 1952 in Sealy, Texas</u>
	19	After <u>1958</u> insert: <u>now living in Houston, Texas</u>
23	10	Delete remainder of paragraph after <u>Children</u> : and add: <u>1 and 2-- twins</u> : Marsha and Marilyn born Oct. 6, 1948 in <u>Crystal City</u> ; (3) Willis Edward Pond III, born Nov. 24, 1951 in <u>Crystal City</u> .
	23	For <u>Pinckney</u> R. Price see: <u>Pinckney</u> G. Price
	24	For <u>Gloria</u> <u>Abigail</u> Coryell read <u>Gloria</u> <u>Verrie</u> Coryell
124	?	After line 9 insert the following paragraphs:
		2. Charles Henry Clift, born August 13, 1903, in Cotton County, Okla., on farm here-chaed by his father and located about 10 miles from Hastings, Okla. Unmarried.

(This sheet should be inserted before page 1 of  
Introduction and corrections made therefrom throughout the volume)



INTRODUCTIONHow This Genealogical Study Came To Be Written

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Lack of Interest and Knowledge. - Like most average American families, the members of the James McMurry Dunn family of Texas and Kentucky have, until recently, known very little about their ancestors beyond the second or, at most, third generations, especially on the Dunn side. The living members during the last three or four decades had little interest in their ancestry until they reached mature age. They may have been told a great deal by their parents, but if so, it did not interest them or "sink in," as is often the case. As "Mack" and Lucie Dunn were born in Kentucky, and moved to Texas about a year after they were married in January, 1870, and since all but one of their ten children were born in Texas, there was little knowledge of or contact with the Kentucky relatives. Mack Dunn returned to visit them from time to time, and one daughter and one granddaughter also visited in Kentucky once or twice. Two or three cousins and nephews also made occasional visits to Texas. Very little of the correspondence exchanged between the Texas branch and their kin in Kentucky has been preserved. It is no reflection on the family to say that they were not "ancestor-minded," with rare exceptions, until recent years when the preservation and accumulation of family data were already quite difficult.

About 1950 I, the author of this narrative, who had been trained as a historian and teacher but had not remained with this profession, retired from a career in the Foreign Service of the U. S. Department of State. Living in Washington, D.C., I had several friends who were interested in genealogy, and through them I joined the local genealogical society and learned of the many facilities for genealogical research in the national capital. I gradually became more and more interested, and determined that I would investigate the antecedents of my own family in which I had hitherto shown such a lamentable lack of interest. I therefore began my



investigations in the National Archives, Library of Congress, and other genealogical centers in Washington. Perhaps equally important, I decided to visit Kentucky and get acquainted at long last with any surviving Dunn relatives who might be able to throw some light on my particular branch of the family.

With the background I had acquired as a result of my studies of U. S. census and other records in Washington, supplemented by the meager family documents that existed, I made my first visit to Kentucky in May, 1952, going to those towns and countries where I knew my parents had lived before moving to Texas.

I was fortunate in having the guidance of my niece, Mrs. Lucie Clift Price, of Austin, Texas, who was the only living member of the family who had visited in Kentucky. She gave me the names and addresses of some of the relatives she had met there. She also sent me a list drawn up by my father in the 1890's, giving the names of his parents and of his eleven brothers and sisters, together with the names of their spouses. I also had the record of births, marriages, and deaths taken from our family Bible. Armed with these data, as well as with the notes I had taken in Washington, my wife and I went first to Stanford, Lincoln County, Kentucky, where my mother was born and where she met and married my Father in 1870. In Stanford we met for the first time my cousin, Prof. Joe T. Embry, and his wife, Cousin Florence, who received us with great hospitality, and insisted that we stay with them. From Stanford as a center, we branched out in all directions where members of the Dunn family had lived or were still living. We visited Lancaster, in Garrard County, where the Dunns had first settled about 1798; Lebanon and Bradfordsville, in Marion County, where my Father had been born; Springfield, in Washington County, from which Marion County had been formed in 1832; in Millersburg, where one of my few living first cousins, Mr. Meredith E. Pruitt resided, recently deceased. We met and talked with all the relatives we could find and reach. I studied the old court house records in all of these places, looking for marriage bonds, wills, deeds, lawsuits, etc. The Embrys furnished me with valuable data



from their family Bible and other records, and other relatives did the same. Altogether, I amassed an imposing pile of notes, which did much to supplement the information I had obtained in Washington. Cousins Edith and Clyde Wilson of Bradfordsville, were extremely helpful in guiding us around Lebanon, Springfield and Old Liberty Cemetery.

From the Embry records I definitely established that Benjamin Dunn was my great-grandfather and that Margaret Hocker Dunn was my great-grandmother, facts that I had forgotten if I ever knew them. They were Joe T. Embry's great-great grandparents. But no one seemed to know who Benjamin Dunn's parents were or where they had come from before settling in Kentucky. Unfortunately I failed to meet one cousin, who was the only Dunn descendant there who had done any systematic research on the family. I learned of her name and address after we returned to Washington. While in Stanford I was told of a gentleman in the Washington area, who had been writing a series of genealogical articles on various Kentucky families, including the Dunns and my mother's family, the Ballingers and Paxtons. His name was Harry Willard Mills, and he lived in nearby Virginia. His articles had been published in the Stanford Interior Journal, one of Kentucky's pioneer newspapers. I found his name in the telephone directory, called him up, and arranged to meet him. I also discovered that he was distantly related to me on both the Dunn and Ballinger sides. Mr. Mills gave me the name of the Kentucky cousin whom I had missed. She was Mrs. Margaret Dunn Frye (Mrs. Arthur Spears Frye), of Somerset, Kentucky. I now wrote to her in quest of any information that she might have.

Cousin Margaret proved to be a great find. She had been doing professional genealogical work for some years and had studied the Dunn records in Kentucky. She also had some Dunn records, or knew of them, which went back beyond Benjamin Dunn. One document consisted of a copy of an old will to which one William Dunn had been a witness back in Anne Arundel County, Maryland, in 1769. Here at last was a clue to where the Dunns had lived before going to Kentucky. Could it be proven that this William Dunn was the father of Benjamin Dunn and his three brothers



whom I had found in various Garrard County and Marion County census records from 1810 to 1870? Mrs. Frye was confident that he was the father of these four brothers. As I assembled, organized, and studied my notes, now very voluminous, I began to have the same conviction.

If it were true that William Dunn was our ancestor and had lived in Maryland, and this fact was further confirmed by the 1850 census of Garrard County, where Benjamin Dunn, my great-grandfather, stated that he had been born in Maryland, there must be traces of him in Annapolis and Anne Arundel County. Thus I extended my research to Annapolis, and in the Hall of Records there I found an abstract of the same old 1769 will, a copy of which had already been sent to me by Mrs. Frye, where William Dunn had signed as a witness to the will of Richard Sheckell. I also went to Rockville, the county seat of Montgomery County, Maryland, where the old records are fairly well indexed. Here I found several deeds for the purchase and sale of land by William Dunn and his sons and other related documents. I also found in Annapolis and Rockville the names of William Dunn and various of his sons on lists of those taking the oath of allegiance to the Revolutionary government as well as in old censuses and tax lists of provincial Maryland. My quest also took me to Frederick and Upper Marlboro, Maryland, and to several of the old churches established during the early period of provincial Maryland. At last, the Kentucky and Maryland ends were joined together in their broad outlines, and it only remained to follow up the many details.

It was now clear that William and Mary Dunn were the parents of my great-grandfather, Benjamin Dunn, and that they had three other sons, viz: William Jr., Augustine, and John. Mrs. Frye knew that her great-grandfather was Augustine Dunn. Only the William Jr. and John Dunn branches remained in relative obscurity. I was now ready to write up my notes from 1769 to the present time. True, there were still some gaps in the story, but the main outline was clear. Only one hypothesis had to be made, which could not be proven as yet. This concerned Mary, the wife of William. Her maiden name never appeared in any of the documents which she signed. Once I found "Mary S. Dunn" signed to a deed, but it was never spelled out. Both Mrs. Frye and



I began to believe that her name was Mary Sheckell, and that she was the daughter of the Richard Sheckell, to whose will William Dunn had been a witness in 1769. Otherwise why would a copy of this will have been treasured by the Dunn family, taken to Kentucky, and preserved in the records of the Augustine Dunn branch? It was all circumstantial evidence, but it seemed logical and convincing.

Only in March, 1960, was this hypothesis exploded. As will be related later in this narrative, baptismal records existing in the Maryland State Historical Society library in Baltimore, prove that Mary, the daughter of the Richard and Ruth Sheckell mentioned in the will was too young to have been the wife of William Dunn and the mother of his four sons. It is hoped, however, that Mary Dunn's identity before she married William can yet be established.

Thus there are still some gaps in the story, but they are relatively unimportant. I have no desire to write an exhaustively detailed account of my branch of the Dunn family. I am also planning to write the history of my mother's family, the Ballinger-Paxton side, on which I have already gathered a great deal of information. One could continue this research indefinitely, but I do not propose to do this, except for the obscure period before 1769. I trust, however, that I have been able to give the most important highlights of my family's origin and history, and thus contribute another chapter to the voluminous literature on American genealogy which will be of interest not only to Dunn descendants, but to other readers as well.

Finally, I wish to express my sincere appreciation to the following relatives for the cooperation and assistance they have given me. I am especially indebted to my niece, Mrs. Lucie Clift Price, of Austin, Texas, who has been indefatigable in sending me new materials and leads; my brother, Mr. James Lewis Dunn, of Houston, Texas, who is sharing in the expense of this research and publication; and to the following cousins of varying degrees of kinship: Mrs. Margaret Dunn Frye (Mrs. A. S. Frye), of Somerset Kentucky; Mr. and Mrs. Joe T. Embry of Stanford, Kentucky; Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Wilson, of Bradfordsville; Mr. Meredith E. Pruitt (now deceased) of Millersburg; Mr. Don V. Drye, of Lebanon and Bradfordsville; Mrs. Frances Embry Davis of



Morganton, North Carolina; Mr. William Fletcher Guy McMurry of St. Charles, Missouri; Mr. John William Dunn of Fort Pierce, Florida; Mrs. Mattie Adams Dotson of Athens, Georgia; and to all other Dunn descendants who have furnished data concerning themselves and their families. Last but not least, I am greatly indebted to my wife, Mrs. Linda Tays Dunn, for her encouragement, patience, and inspirational help. She has been my constant companion throughout the various phases of this undertaking.

William Edward Dunn

4000 Cathedral Avenue, N. W.  
Washington, D. C.

July, 1960





Mrs. Lucie Ballinger Dunn  
Wife of James McMurry Dunn  
(at about age of 50)



James McMurry Dunn, Ancestor No. 4  
(Aug. 25, 1850–March 5, 1928)

## CHAPTER I

### WILLIAM DUNN, SR., ANCESTOR NO. I

Early Appearance in Maryland.— William Dunn, Sr., is the earliest ancestor of the James McMurry Dunn family who can be positively identified. He first appears of record in December 25, 1769, when he signed as one of the four witnesses to the last will and testament of Richard Shekell in Anne Arundel County, Maryland. The other three witnesses were Jacob Franklin, Benjamin Carr, and John Shekell, the last-named probably being a brother, or possibly a son, of Richard's. An abstract of this will is on file in the Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland, and is found on pages 484-485 of Maryland Will Book No. 37. A copy of the same will was carried by the William Dunn family to Kentucky and is now in the possession of his descendant Richard Shekell died shortly thereafter, and the will was filed for probate on **March 17, 1770.**

The question naturally arises: How can one be sure that the William Dunn, one of the four witnesses to Richard Shekell's will, was the direct ancestor of the James McMurry Dunn family of Texas and Kentucky? The chain of evidence which establishes this fact makes a most interesting story, which will be unfolded as this narrative progresses. One of the main clues is that a copy of the 1769 will was so greatly treasured by the William Dunn family that it was taken with them when they migrated to Kentucky about 1798, and is one of the very few mementos that have been preserved from the Maryland period of the family history.

As this will is such an important link in the identification of William Dunn as Ancestor No. 1, the text of this document is now reproduced below. The copy which was taken to Kentucky was folded, and on the back this notation appeared: "A copy of Rich. Will." It is said to have been kept in the original old "lap box" or writing box in which one of the members of the William Dunn family carried gold with which to purchase land in Kentucky, together with other documents of family interest. The text of the will is as follows:

Will of Richard Shekell of Anne Arundel County, Maryland, 1769.

In the Name of God, Amen.

I, Richard Shekell, of Anne Arundel County and Province of Maryland, being weak in body but of sound and perfect mind and memory. Do make constitute and ordain this to be my last will and testament. In manner and form following, viz:

Imprimus. I will and order my Executor hereafter Named, to pay all my just and Lawful debts and Demand against me.

Item. I give and bequeath unto my Dear and Loving Wife, Ruth Shekell, all the land which is mine and which I now have in my possession, with one-third part of my Personal Estate During her life, but after her death my will is that my said Land should be sold and the money therefrom arising should be equally divided between my several children and their Heirs forever.

Item. My will is, as several of my children are settled, viz. John, Richard, Anne, Mary, and I have before this given to them Negroes and Several other things, my will is that they do not come in for any part of my Estate until the rest of my Children have received as much in value as what they have had and what then should remain of my Estate after my Debts are paid I will and order to be equally divided between my several Children and their Heirs forever.

And lastly I do nominate and appoint my Dear and loving Wife Ruth Shekell whole and Sole Executrix of this my last Will and Testament. Thereby revoking all others heretofore made by me. In Testimony whereof I have set my hand and fixed my seal this twenty-fifth day of December one thousand seven hundred and sixty-nine.

Signed, Published and delivered this to be my last Will and Testament in the presence of

Jacob Franklin  
Benjamin Carr  
William Dunn  
John Shekell

Richard Shekell (seal)

William Dunn, Ancestor No. 1, his wife, Mary Dunn, and their four sons and two daughters can be clearly identified in Maryland from 1780 to 1795, and then reappear in Kentucky after 1798. The birth dates of two of their sons, Augustine and Benjamin, are definitely known from family records to have been in 1757 and 1762. Their existence can also be traced from various deeds, oaths of allegiance, list of taxables, and at least two Maryland censuses in 1778 and 1790, all of which will be mentioned later. Yet there might be some doubt as to whether the William Dunn who was a witness to the Shekell will was the same William Dunn who migrated to Kentucky were it not for

the copy of the will that has been handed down to his descendants. It can be safely assumed that no family would have cherished and preserved an old will of this kind unless it had an intimate connection with the maker of the will, either blood relationship or very close friendship.

For some time it has been assumed that Mary, one of the children mentioned in the will, was the wife of William Dunn, since it is well known that his wife was named Mary, as proven by various deeds she signed with her husband, and by her will and settlement of her estate in Kentucky in later years. Although in no place did she sign her maiden name, in one deed she did sign as "Mary S. Dunn." It therefore seemed logical to assume that the Mary mentioned in the Shekell will as being one of the children who were "settled" was the wife of the William Dunn, a witness to the will.

This assumption has now been proven to be erroneous. Birth records of St. James Parish Church, on file in the Maryland State Historical Society Library in Baltimore, show that Mary, daughter of Richard and Ruth Shekell, was born on September 26, 1746. She was therefore too young to have been the mother of William Dunn's son, Augustine, born in 1757, nor would it be likely that she was the mother of Benjamin Dunn, born in 1762. Furthermore, the same church records show the birth of a Hannah Dunn, daughter of William Dunn and of Mary, his wife, on October 12, 1753.

Settlement of Richard Shekell's Personal Estate.— Further conclusive proof that Mary Shekell was not the wife of William Dunn is found in the settlement of Richard Shekell's personal estate in 1770-1771. Richard Shekell's will was probated on March 17, 1770, at which time three of the four witnesses, viz: Benjamin Carr, William Dunn, and John Shekell, certified that the will was the same one that they had seen Richard Shekell sign on December 25, 1769. On March 21, 1770 the first accounting of the estate was made, naming the children to whom "legacies" or gifts had been made. Here Mary was shown as "Mary Roberts", while all the others were called Shekells.

This settlement cited Ruth Shekell as "Executrix of Richard Shekell, deceased." The value of the estate, not including any land, was given as 849 pounds, 2 shillings,

and 6 pence, with Jacob Franklin and Isaac Hall acting as appraisers. John Shekell and Samuel Shekell signed as "kindred." The values of the "legacies" were as follows:

John Shekell	£ 47-2-0
Richard Shekell	46-19-6
Samuel Shekell	4-0-0
Hezekiah Shekell	4-0-0
Ann Shekell	43-5-0
Mary Roberts	<u>42-0-0</u>

£ 188-1-6

Mary Roberts was shown as having received 1 negro girl, a cow and calf, and 1 feather bed and furniture to the value mentioned. The others had received gifts of similar things. (Hall of Records, Annapolis, Settlements, Box 79, Folder 10.)

A final settlement was made on November 13, 1771. Ruth, the widow, was given 1/3 of the balance of the personal estate during her lifetime, amounting to £ 70-12-34, (she was to receive all of the land until her death). Adding this amount to the advancements made to the six children named (£ 188-1-6), and subtracting the sum of these two items from the total value of the estate (£ 849-2-6), a balance of £ 347-6-1 remained, "which divided equally among eleven (sic) children is to each £ 31-11-5 1/2 current money." The settlement continued: "Therefore each legatee must refund as much as they have received more than that sum." (Ibid., Liber 6, folios 101 and 301.)

No clue is given as to who the other five children were, but only those who had received "legacies" were mentioned by name. These details of the Richard Shekell settlement are given here because of the close association of the Shekells and Dunns. Just what this association was is still a matter of conjecture. It is obvious that if William Dunn was present in Anne Arundel County on December 25, 1769, to sign as a witness to the will and was still there on March 17, 1770, to certify to the authenticity of the will, it is highly probable that he lived in the general vicinity of the Shekell home, at least at this time. He may have been the overseer for Richard Shekell's farm. Ruth Shekell, wife of Richard, may have been a sister or other close

relative of William Dunn's. If the Shekells and Dunns had only been casual acquaintances or friends, it is not likely that a copy of the Shekell will would have been preserved by the Dunns as a family relic.

Where Did William Dunn Live in 1769-1770?.- There is convincing evidence that William Dunn and family lived in Anne Arundel County near the Shekells as late as 1769-1770. First, is the fact that he was present to sign the will as witness and to certify in the probate proceedings. Second, is the fact that the births of four of the Shekell children were registered in St. James' Church, near the present village of Lothian, Anne Arundel County, Maryland; and that the birth of "Hannah Dunn, daughter of William Dunn and Mary, his wife" on March 27, 1753, was also registered in the same church. Third, is the fact that the marriage of Hannah Dunn, "daughter of William and Mary Dunn," to Ezekiel Shekell on March 27, 1771, was also recorded there (Parish Records of St. James' Church, Vol. 1682-1869, pp. 386-387.)

The Shekells and the Dunns must have lived within convenient travel time of St. James' Church. The general location is further pinpointed by an earlier deed of March 11, 1747, as regards the Shekells, whereby one Abraham Birkhead, "for the love, good will and affection that I bear toward my son-in-law, John Sheckles and four shillings sterling," deeded the latter a lot in Pigg's Point, "otherwise known as Bristol Town," in Anne Arundel County (Hall of Records, Annapolis, RB No. 2, 1740-1744, Deed 561).

The village of Lothian is situated on Maryland State Highway 2, about 20 miles south of Annapolis. Bristol is on Route 259 about 8 miles further south and about the same distance from Upper Marlboro. Thus the Shekells and Dunns must have lived within a radius of 25 to 30 miles from Annapolis and some 10 to 15 miles from St. James' Church in Lothian.

The Baltimore Parish Records.- Further details on the information contained in the church records at Baltimore should be of interest at this point. The births of the four children of Richard and Ruth Shekell mentioned in the will (Register of St.

James' Parish, Vol. 1682-1869, page 386) are recorded as follows:

Was Born:

Ann, dau. of Richard Shekell (sic) and Ruth his wife, May 28, 1740  
John, son of Richard Shekell and Ruth his wife, March 1, 1741  
Richard, son of Richard Shekell and Ruth his wife, June 24, 1744  
Mary, dau. of Richard Shekell & Ruth his wife, Sept. 26, 1746

The 1769 will refers to "the rest of my children" and the settlement of 1770-1771 refers to eleven children, but no others are listed under St. James' Parish. Even Samuel and Hezekiah Shekell were not registered. They may have been recorded in another parish, but if so, they have not yet been found. In this same Register, however, the birth dates of children of another Shekell family appear (Idem, pp. 386-387):

Was Born:

Abraham Shekels (sic), son of John & Frances Shekels, Nov. 15, 1735  
Rebecca, dau. of John & Frances Shekels, Sept. 21, 1737  
Richard, son of John and Frances Shekels, Nov. 5, 1742  
Mary, dau. of John & Frances Shekels, August 23, 1745

It seems safe to assume that Richard Shekell and John Shekels were brothers or closely related. The fact that the names are spelled differently has no special significance for those days. The name Shekell has been written here as it appears in the signature to the 1769 will in Annapolis, but it is also spelled in the text of that will as Sheakles, Shekells, Scheckels, and Shekels. This John Shekels may have been one of the witnesses to Richard's will rather than Richard's son of the same name. It is worthy of note that John Shekell's eldest son was named Abraham, apparently for his grandfather, Abraham Birkhead, who deeded a lot to his son-in-law, John Shekels, in Pigg's Point.

The birth date of Hannah Dunn and her marriage are recorded in the St. James' Parish Register on pages 386-387 as follows:

Was born, Hannah, dau. of William Dunn and Mary his wife, Oct. 12, 1753  
Hannah Dunn married Ezekiel Scheckells (sic) on Jan. 21, 1771.

The William Dunn Family in 1769-1770.- All of the children of William and Mary Dunn had probably been born by 1769-1770. William and Mary must have married in 1751 or 1752. If Hannah was the first-born, as is believed, 6 or 7 children had been born by 1769, when William and Mary had been married some 17 or 18 years. Only six children are known from Kentucky records, but there may have been seven or more. William Jr. appears to have been the eldest son, but the date of his birth is not known. Augustine Dunn was born in 1757, and Benjamin in 1762, according to family records. John or "Jackie" Dunn was the fourth known son, but his birth date is also unknown. One of John's granddaughters was named Hannah Cooper Dunn, who died in Kentucky in 1864. John Dunn and Milly Cooper are listed in Annapolis marriage records as having been married in Anne Arundel County on March 12, 1795 (page 59). It is significant that the names "Hannah" and "Cooper" reappear in Kentucky. The Hannah Dunn who married Ezekiel Shekell in 1771 may have become a widow, who remarried and went to Kentucky with the rest of the William Dunn family. There were two known daughters of William and Mary Dunn, but their given names are not known. They are only mentioned as having married Thomas Wilson and Nathan Douglas respectively. One of these daughters may have been Hannah Dunn Shekell. No Shekells are recorded in the Kentucky era of the William Dunn family or his descendants.

The foregoing is all that is known at this time of the William Dunn family when they were living in or were associated with the Lothian-Bristol section of Anne Arundel County, Maryland in 1769-1770. When they next appear, they were residents of "Lower Newfoundland Hundred" of Montgomery County, created out of Frederick County in the year 1776.

William Dunn and Two Sons Take the Oath of Fidelity.- William Dunn, Ancestor No. 1, next appears of record on February 28, 1778, when he and two of his sons, William Jr. and Augustine (sometimes written as "Augoston" and pronounced with the accent on the second syllable) took the oath of fidelity to the American Revolutionary Government in Montgomery County. As only youths of 16 years or over were allowed

to take this oath, it is clear that neither Benjamin nor John Dunn were old enough to be included. Benjamin was born on August 12, 1762, and lacked several months of being 16 on February 28, 1778. John was evidently even younger. Other names appearing on this same list included Nicholas Hocker and Thomas Aldridge, whose daughters later married into the William Dunn family. Benjamin Dunn married Margaret Hocker; Augustine and John Dunn married Aldridge sisters. John Dunn may have married a second time, if he was the same John Dunn who married Milly Cooper in 1795. (There is a family tradition that "Jackie" Dunn had a total of four wives.) The Dunns, Hockers, and Aldridges were all shown as living in Montgomery County. Charles Reynolds, Basil Lucas, and a score or more of Bealls were also listed at this same time. These names appeared on a list of 467 men taking the oath of fidelity as rendered by Edward Burgess, who certified that it was a true copy of the original list "lodged in Montgomery County Court," dated March 1, 1778. (Hall of Records, Annapolis, "Oaths of Fidelity" Box 4, Folder 6.)

William Dunn Sr., William Dunn Jr., and Augustine Dunn also appear on a "List of Taxables" for Lower Newfoundland Hundred, Montgomery County, in 1778. This list was apparently drawn up for the use of a Committee of three men formed to raise funds in that "Hundred" for aid in financing the Revolutionary War. The members of this Committee were Edward Burgess, Walter Beall, and Joseph Perry, all of whom are known to have been neighbors of the William Dunn family in that part of Montgomery County. ("List of Taxables," Hall of Records, Annapolis. A copy of this list exists in the Library of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Washington, D.C. The funds-raising committee is mentioned in Scharff's History of Maryland, Vol. II, page 175.)<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>Two members of the funds-raising committee, Burgess and Perry, are listed in the 1790 census of Montgomery County. Walter Beall was not shown. Perry had 13 slaves; Burgess had none. On January 7, 1784, Edward Burgess and Walter Beall were appointed as Justices of the Peace for Montgomery County. (Maryland Archives, Vol. 48, p. 502, National Archives Genealogical Library, Washington, D.C. (A copy of the 1790 Maryland census is kept at the order desk in this room.) A list of the Montgomery "Hundreds" and an explanation of the meaning of this term will be found on page 13.

Home of the William Dunn Family in 1778.— The foregoing documents clearly indicate that the William Dunn family were living in present Montgomery County, Maryland by 1778. They may have lived there even as early as 1769, when William Dunn witnessed the Richard Shekell will, but it does not seem likely. The distance from the Lothian-Bristol-St. James' Church section of Anne Arundel County to "Lower Newfoundland Hundred" in Montgomery County must have approximated 40 miles over the rough roads of those days. Lower Newfoundland Hundred was contiguous to other hundreds formerly constituting a part of Frederick County, but incorporated in Montgomery County when it was formed in 1776, such as Northwest, Rock Creek, and Georgetown Hundreds, parts of which went to form the District of Columbia in 1790. As will be shown later, William Dunn lived for many years near the present city of Silver Spring, Maryland, where he purchased a farm in 1780.

There are records of many Dunns in Frederick County before 1769, but it has been impossible to establish any direct connection between any of them and William Dunn, Ancestor No. 1. However, it is possible that William Dunn and his parents and/or grandparents may have settled in Frederick County in the early 1700's in what is now Montgomery County, even though he was closely associated with the Shekells in Anne Arundel County in 1769-1770. There is no record of the William Dunns having owned land in the latter county, and no documents concerning them other than those mentioned have been found at Annapolis. Had it not been for Richard Shekell's will and settlement, and the birth record of a Hannah Dunn in St. James' Church at Lothian, there would be no link between William Dunn, Ancestor No. 1, and Anne Arundel County. Again it must be emphasized, however, that the "copy" of the Shekell will handed down in the William Dunn family does provide incontrovertible proof of some intimate connection between the Dunns and Shekells, regardless of where the respective families may have resided in 1769-1770.

William Dunn Buys a Farm.— The next major event in the history of the William Dunn family took place in 1780, when William Dunn bought two adjoining tracts of land

in Montgomery County from Abraham Davenport of Berkeley County, Virginia. The larger tract contained 243 acres, and was known as "Hard Struggle, formerly Friendship Enlarged." Consideration was stated as 315 pounds sterling. The second tract consisted of 20 1/4 acres, known as "Good Will," with a consideration of 18 shillings (sic). Both deeds conveying these tracts to William Dunn were dated November 11, 1780, and were recorded in Liber A, pp. 584-585, Montgomery County Deed Records, County Court House, Rockville, Maryland. On the margin of each deed there appears the notation: "Exam.<sup>d</sup> and Del.<sup>d</sup> - William Dunn, Jr."

In order to identify the location of William Dunn's farm, it will be necessary to trace the history of the old grant known as "Friendship Enlarged." This grant was originally made to one Ninian Beall under date of August 4, 1713. It was first called "Friendship," and contained 600 acres. When the grantee complained that "a considerable parte thereof was very mean, indifferent, and barren," and petitioned for a special warrant to resurvey the grant in order to include some "vacant land of better quality," he was authorized to do so. He then made a new survey and came out with 920 acres, which were called "Friendship Enlarged." This grant was described as "Beginning at a bounded white oake standing on the east side of the north branch of the Eastern branch of potomack River and running thence South tenn degrees Easterly 76 perches; East by South 130 perches; North by East 300 perches. . . then with a straight line to the Beginning containing 920 acres more or less." (Liber PL 4, folios 1-2, Land Office, Annapolis, Md.)

The "north branch of the Eastern branch of potomack River" was undoubtedly the present Northwest Branch of the Anacostia River. Just where the "bounded white oake" was located has not been determined. The grant did not state that it was on the bank of the Branch, but only on the "east side." There must have been many white oak trees in that vicinity at the time. As late as 1913, there was a "White Oak Farm" owned by J. S. Clark and shown on many modern surveys of land in the Silver Spring area of Montgomery County. This farm gave its name to the present community of White Oak, and also to the White Oak Plant of the U. S. Naval Ordnance Laboratory in that locality. It is doubtful, however, that the "bounded white oake" of Friendship Enlarged was necessarily located on this farm, although deeds covering the J. S. Clark property refer to it as "being part of a tract of land called Friendship Enlarged." (Liber 234, folio 292, covering quit claim for 50 acres in favor of J. S. Clark, February 17, 1913, County Court House, Rockville, Maryland.)

The first subdivision of the original Friendship Enlarged is revealed in a deed recorded in Liber F, folio 605 on file in Frederick, Maryland, whereby Jonathan Nixon bought on November 7, 1757, from Elizabeth Beall, widow and executrix of Ninian Beall, and Alexander Beall, a tract of 290 acres of Friendship Enlarged, together with a contiguous tract of 66 acres called "Hills and Dales", for a consideration of 21,000 pounds of tobacco. These two tracts were undoubtedly in or near the present community of Hillandale, Montgomery County, which probably derived its name from the second tract. The 290 acres of Friendship Enlarged was referred to in other deeds as the "Middle Tract." This sale to Jonathan Nixon was pursuant to the stipulation made in William Beall's last will, and testament, dated January 18, 1736, that part of a tract called Friendship Enlarged containing 290 acres, and part of a tract contiguous thereto called Hills and Dales containing 66 acres, both in Frederick County and belonging to Elizabeth Beall and Alexander Beall be sold and the "money thereof applyed toward payment of his debts." (Ibid.)

The second subdivision of "Friendship Enlarged," as revealed in records at Frederick, Md., was in 1765, 11 years before Montgomery County was organized. A deed recorded on March 6, 1765 recites that "Abraham Davenport, Black Smith of Charles Co. Province of Maryland", paid 190 pounds of "inspection currency" for "all that parcel of land lying in Frederick County, being part of a tract called Hard Struggle formerly Friendship Enlarged and Upper Tract, containing 243 acres more or less." (Liber J, folio 1095, Frederick County Land Deeds, Frederick, Md.) The boundaries given for this tract of 243 acres are precisely the same as those mentioned in the 1780 deed of Abraham Davenport to William Dunn, as well as in later deeds when it changed hands. Abraham Davenport apparently had removed to Virginia between 1765 and 1780.

The foregoing two sales comprised 533 acres of the original 920 acres contained in the 1713 grant of Friendship Enlarged. Just who owned the remaining 387 acres of the grant by 1780 is not known, but they were probably in the possession of various heirs of the Beall family.

It might be possible to pinpoint exactly the location of William Dunn's 243 acres, if a new survey could be made in accordance with the boundaries shown in the 1765 and 1780 deeds. However, such a survey is not practicable at this late date, as the entire area of Friendship Enlarged is now occupied by suburban homes and properties. Suffice it to say that the old Dunn farm was undoubtedly situated in the northern or upper part of the old grant, near the present community of Burnt Mills and slightly north or northwest of Hillandale. It was probably 2 or 3 miles north of Four Corners on the Colesville Road. There is additional abundant evidence that William Dunn lived in this general locality.<sup>1</sup>

William and Mary Dunn and their children were to reside on their "Hard Struggle" farm for 15 years, from 1780 to 1795. Whether they occupied any part of this property as tenants before they bought it in 1780 is unknown. As has been pointed out, the date of their removal from Anne Arundel County, assuming that they were living there in 1769-70, is likewise unknown, but it is clear that they were in Montgomery County as early as 1778 when William and his two sons took the oath of fidelity. If Mary Dunn was a close relative of Richard Shekell, or if Ruth Shekell was closely related to the William Dunn family, it is possible that the latter inherited money from the Shekell estate when Ruth died and the land was sold, as stipulated in Richard Shekell's will. This may have provided all or part of the funds which enabled them to buy "Hard Struggle" in 1780. This is pure conjecture, however, as the date of Ruth's death is unknown, nor has the settlement of her estate yet been found.

Lower Newfoundland Hundred.— The exact location of "Lower Newfoundland Hundred", where William Dunn lived, is not shown on any map of colonial Maryland, but it is known that it was located in that portion of Frederick County which went to form

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<sup>1</sup> An interesting old map of Montgomery County made by J. Martenet in 1865 may be seen in the Map Division of the Library of Congress. It shows Burnt Mills, Colesville and Sligo (now Silver Spring) as "post offices," and the District of Columbia as it then appeared. Names of property owners are also shown. No Dunns were listed, but the names of several owners appeared, whose deeds in Rockville show that their properties were formerly contained in the Friendship Enlarged grant.

Montgomery County in 1776. G. M. Brumbaugh, in his Maryland Records, page 233, gives a list of the Hundreds that were comprised in Montgomery County after its separation from Frederick County, viz:

1. Upper Part of Newfoundland Hundred
2. Lower Part of Newfoundland Hundred
3. Upper Part of Potomack Hundred
4. Lower Part of Potomack Hundred
5. Seneca Hundred
6. Northwest Hundred
7. Georgetown Hundred
8. Rock Creek Hundred
9. Sugar Land Hundred
10. Sugar Loaf Hundred
11. Lingamore Hundred

Brumbaugh states that Nos. 1 to 4 and 8 to 11 were the old names that were used when these Hundreds were included in Frederick County, and that the others were new ones. The term "Newfoundland" has not been preserved in the modern geographical nomenclature of Maryland, but it is clear from the association of both Upper and Lower Newfoundland with the other Hundreds that they were situated in the vicinity of what is now the District of Columbia, and more exactly in the environs of Silver Spring.<sup>1</sup>

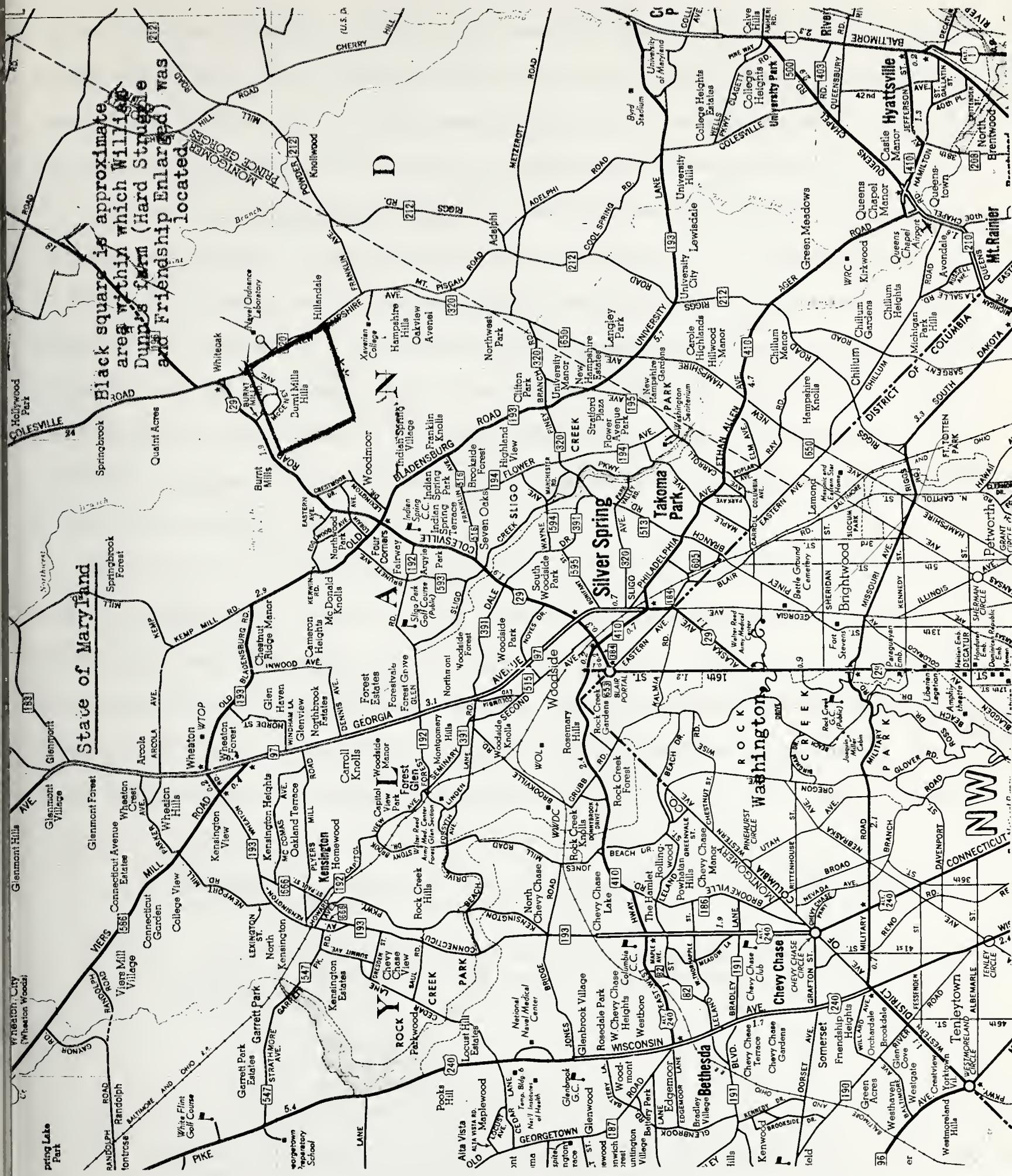
William Dunn Listed as Taxpayer. - The name of William Dunn appears in the 1783 Tax Assessment Roll of Lower Newfoundland Hundred as owner of 170 acres of land, known as "Hard Struggle," 140 acres of which were cleared, with one "old log house," all valued at 85 pounds for tax purposes. Other taxpayers listed in this same Hundred were John Sheckle (sic), Walter Beall, Charles Reynolds, Basil Lucas, and Charles Cheney. All of these had equally modest assessments. It is apparent that under-valuation of taxable property was as customary in Maryland in 1783 as it is in most places today.

The John Sheckle listed was shown as owning 4 3/4 acres of land. He may have been a descendant of the John Sheckle who was a witness to the Richard Sheckell will in 1769, or he may have been the same man in spite of the small amount of property

<sup>1</sup>The term "Hundred" originally meant a district in England that could supply the King with 100 soldiers or armed men, hence a tax subdivision. The designation was not popular in Maryland, and was abolished in 1824. It existed even later in Delaware. (Ibid.)

Black square is approximate area within which Will 140 Dumps farm (Hard Strips) and Friendship Enlarge<sup>ment</sup> was located.

State of Maryland





he was reported as owning. Could he have been the son-in-law of Abraham Birkhead, who deeded him a lot in Pigg's Point or Bristol Town, Anne Arundel County? Could he and other Shekells have removed to Montgomery County with the William Dunns? Unfortunately no evidence has been found on which to base answers to these questions.<sup>1</sup>

William Dunn Buys and Sells Land. - In 1787 William Dunn both sold and bought land in Montgomery County. On March 5, 1787 (recorded on March 7) he sold 36 3/4 acres to Walter Beall, described as bordering on "Friendship Enlarged" and taken from "Hard Struggle" and "Good Will." Consideration was stated as 128 pounds and 10 shillings. (Liber C, page 471, Montgomery County Deed Records, Rockville, Maryland)<sup>2</sup>. On May 24, 1787 Walter Beall deeded to William and Mary Dunn a tract of 4 1/2 acres in "Friendship Enlarged" for a consideration of 5 pounds, 3 shillings, and 6 pence (Liber C, page 532, Rockville, Md.)

These were the only transfers relating to the William Dunn family that appear in Rockville between 1780 and 1795, so far as the Maryland records indicate. William and Mary Dunn were doubtless living the typical rural life of colonial Marylanders, and rearing their children, some of whom were becoming more and more interested in the fabulous region known as Kentucky, lying across the Appalachian Mountains, at the end of the Wilderness Road. Whether William Dunn or any of his sons took part in any of

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<sup>1</sup> A Thomas Sheckle appears on the Martenet map of 1865 as living on Sligo Branch just over the Prince George's County line.

<sup>2</sup> On the margin of the abstract of the deed of March 5, 1787 there appears the following notation dated 19 years later, after the William Dunn family had moved to Kentucky:

Exam.<sup>d</sup> and sent Col.  
by mail 4 Dec.<sup>r</sup> 1806  
40 3/4 acres  
William Gaither (Gunther?)

This entry, "Examined and sent collect by mail 4 December 1806" must refer to some transaction involving this tract of land at this later date. The name "Gaither" is very faint, and may well be "Gunther", who was probably the clerk making the notation in 1806.

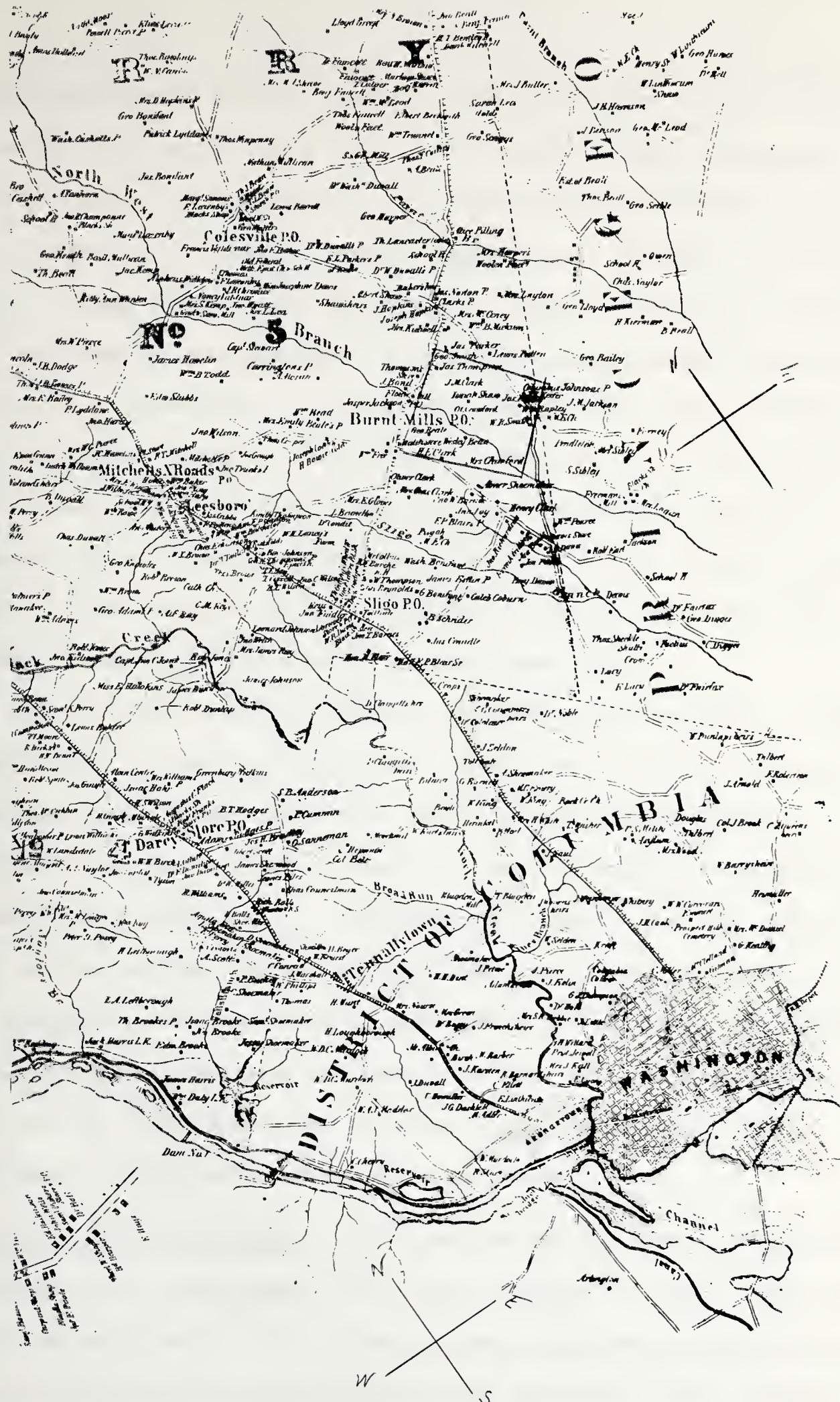
the exploration trips across the mountains is not recorded, but if they did not, some of their friends and neighbors probably did. For the pioneer spirits of those days, a stay of 15 years in one place was rather monotonous, and it is not surprising to find the William Dunn family ready and willing to join the stream of migration that was constantly flowing to the less crowded lands toward the West.

William Dunn Sells "Hard Struggle."— On October 8, 1795, William Dunn sold his Maryland farm to Upton Beall for a consideration of 364 pounds, which gave him a profit of 49 pounds over the purchase price in 1780, not including the 36 3/4 acres that he had sold in 1787. The property was described as containing 243 acres and all appurtenances of the tract known as "Hard Struggle, formerly Friendship Enlarged;" also 20 1/4 acres of the tract called "Good Will." The deed gave the detailed boundaries by "perches" (rods), and recited that Mary, wife of William Dunn, was "privily examined, acknowledged her right of dower, and (said) that she did the same freely and voluntarily without being threatened thereto by ill usage from her husband or dread of his displeasure." (Maryland Land Deeds, Liber G, pp. 24-26, Rockville, Md.) The sale of "Hard Struggle" signalized the approaching end of their residence in Maryland and the eve of their departure for their new home in Kentucky some time between 1795 and 1798.<sup>1</sup>

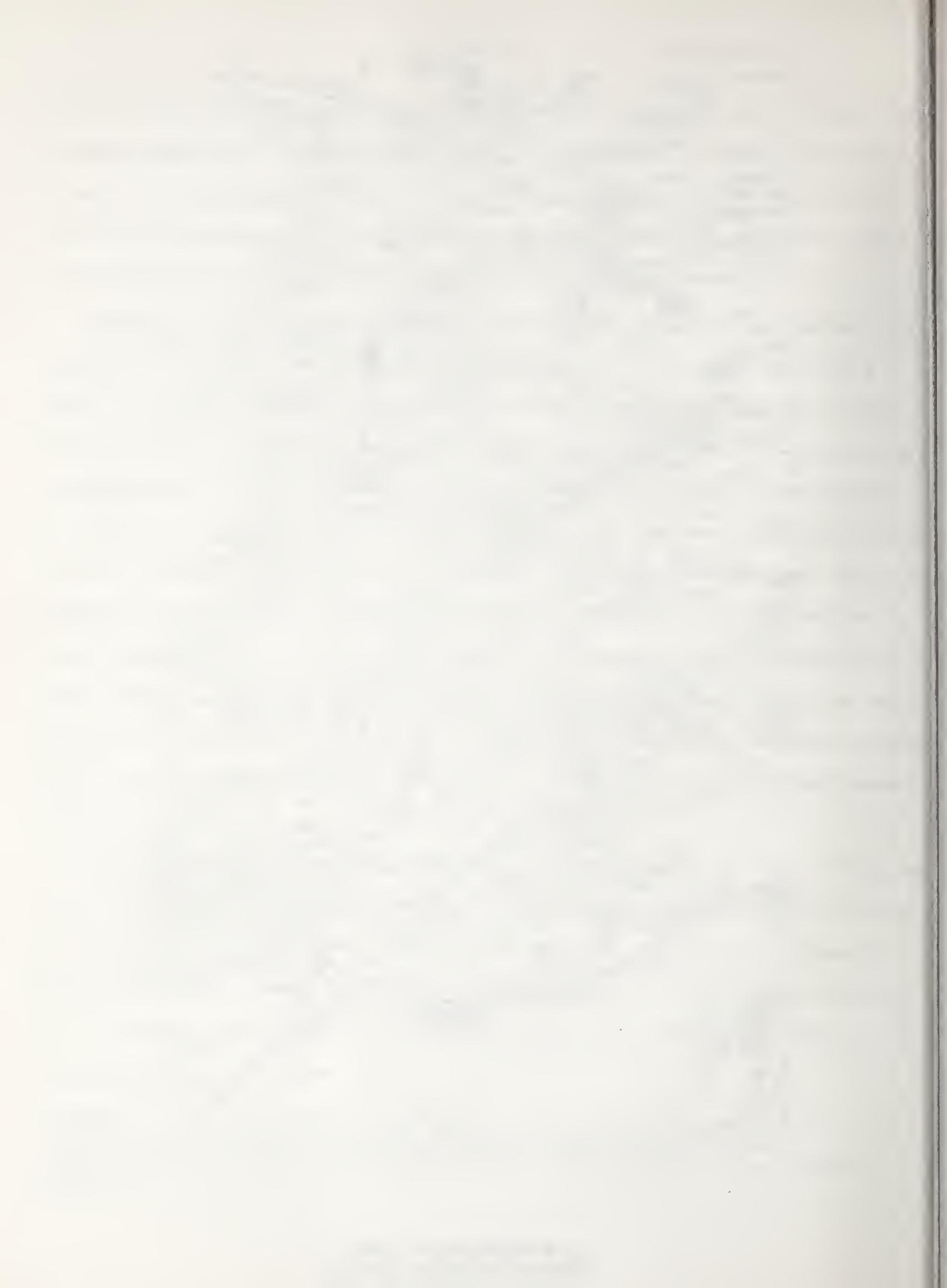
Later History of the William Dunn Farm.— Later changes in ownership of William Dunn's farm have been traced down to 1858. The new owner, Upton Beall, did not keep it very long. On June 20, 1797, less than two years later, he sold it to Henry O. Riley (O'Reily?) for a consideration of 375 pounds (Liber G, pp. 529-530, Rockville, Md.) On July 8, 1797, Riley sold 163 acres of this same tract to John Gorden of

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<sup>1</sup>A modern road map of the Silver Spring-Burnt Mills area of Montgomery County, indicating where William Dunn's farm was located, appears opposite page 14. A section of the J. Martenet map of 1865 showing the same area, is given opposite page 15.



J. Martenet Map of 1865  
Showing Northeast Section  
of Montgomery County, Md.  
and District of Columbia



Northumberland County, Virginia, for 855 pounds of "current money." The land was described as "all that moiety or part of tract whereon Charles Reynolds lives called Friendship Enlarged, being part of land called Upper Tract Enlarged." Riley then lived in Georgetown. In 1815 a deed of Clement Sewell Trustee, of the District of Columbia, to James Greer stated the following: "Henry O. Reily (sic), late of Alexandria, now deceased, was possessed of real estate in Montgomery County, being certain parts of three tracts called by names of Good Will, Hard Struggle, and Friendship Enlarged, sold to O'Reily (sic) on June 20, 1797, by Upton Beall." This land was ordered sold by a bill in equity before Honorable William Kilty, Chancellor, Md., against Francis Dodge and Elizabeth O'Reily, and it was bought by James Greer for \$10.37 1/2 per acre, or a total of \$2,160.59 for 208 1/4 acres (Liber S, -19, folio 345). Some of the 243 acres had already been sold.

In 1846 and 1847 transfers of the old farm were again recorded. Isabella P. Greer and Martha V. Greer, heirs-at-law of James Greer, deceased, deeded certain land to Isaac Maus of Montgomery County and George B. Smith of the District of Columbia. The land was described as parts of Good Will, Hard Struggle, and Friendship Enlarged. (Montgomery County Deeds STS-2, f. 399, Rockville, Md.) In a deed recorded September 9, 1858, various parties, heirs-at-law of James Greer, late of Arkansas, "deceased," deeded to Isaac N. Maus and George B. Smith parts of Good Will, Hard Struggle, and Friendship Enlarged, with metes and bounds the same as in Upton Beall to Henry O. Reily on June 20, 1797, a total of 197 acres (Ibid, Deeds JGH-7, f. 97). No effort has been made to trace the property beyond this date.

The Dunns Move to Kentucky.— William Dunn was destined to live only 13 years more after he sold his Montgomery County farm. He died in 1808. There are indications that he had given up active farming as early as 1790, although he and his wife continued to have a separate home of their own. William Jr. had probably taken over most of the responsibility for his parents. The Montgomery County census of 1790 lists William Dunn, Sr. with 2 free white males (one being himself), and 2 free

white females (one being his wife), with no slaves. Only the name of the head of the household was given in this census.

William Dunn Jr. was shown with 1 free white male (himself), 3 free white females (including his wife), 3 other free white persons, and 8 slaves. Who the other "free white male" was in William Dunn Sr.'s family is a mystery. All of his sons had married by 1790, and had homes of their own, except for Benjamin, who was listed separately as "1 free white male" (himself) with no free white females or other free persons, and 9 slaves. Is it possible that another son, nephew or other close relative was living with William and Mary Dunn? As will be told later in this narrative, the commission of an "Osburn Dunn" as lieutenant in the Maryland militia from Montgomery County, dated June 18, 1794, was taken by the William Dunn family to Kentucky about 1798, together with a copy of the old 1769 will and other mementos. Perhaps this second male was Osburn Dunn, whose relationship to the William Dunn family has never been determined.

Both a William Dunn (no "Junior") and Osburn Dunn were commissioned as lieutenants in the 18th Regiment of Maryland militia on June 18, 1794, and both were shown as having resigned on September 6, 1794, although William was mentioned as "promoted." This entry is the only trace of an Osburn Dunn that has been found in Maryland or Kentucky. (Note: The Maryland entry is in the Hall of Records, Annapolis, under "Military Records.") Osburn Dunn must have been a close relative if the William Dunns preserved his commission as a cherished memento. As he does not appear in Kentucky, a logical conclusion is that he died before the William Dunn family moved to Kentucky. There is no positive proof that the William Dunn cited in the Maryland militia roster was William Dunn, Jr., son of William Dunn, Ancestor No. 1, but the proximity of the names and the coincidence of dates suggest this probability. They were both listed as being from Montgomery County. The decision to move to Kentucky was probably made by William Jr., and his brothers rather than by their parents, who were already of advanced age, probably in their 70's. Just when the move to Kentucky took place is not known to any of the William Dunn descendants either by tradition or

by written record. It can be stated with certainty, however, that the move was made between October, 1795, when "Hard Struggle" was sold, and the year 1798, when the first recorded purchase of land in Kentucky was made by a member of the William Dunn family.<sup>1</sup>

The Pioneer Urge. - The Dunn brothers were evidently imbued with the same pioneering spirit that caused so many of the early Scotch-Irish settlers to migrate further westward in search of more and better land. Certainly there did not seem to be much future in continuing to farm "Hard Struggle" and adjoining land where they had eked out a living for some 15 years or more. They did not foresee that "Lower Newfound-land Hundred" and their section of Montgomery County were destined to become close suburbs of the present vast metropolitan area of Washington, D. C., which had been chosen in 1790 as the capital of the United States of America. One can hardly blame them for feeling that the development of the sprawling and primitive new capital would be so slow and uncertain that they would not benefit from it during their lifetimes. Some of the Dunn descendants in Kentucky, however, have often regretted that their ancestors had succumbed to the pioneer urge, and these and other Maryland properties are still referred to as the "Lost Fortune." Yet when one sees the lush and beautiful landscape of the Blue Grass region of Kentucky where they settled, there can be little doubt that these pioneers themselves had few regrets at leaving the "thin and arable sapling soil" of Hard Struggle, Good Will, and Friendship Enlarged, as these properties were described in the Maryland tax records of 1783.

Whether the Dunn sons and their parents traveled to Kentucky in a group, or whether one or more of them went ahead to prepare a home for their parents is not known. As has been stated, there is reason to believe that William Dunn, Sr. had

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<sup>1</sup> Certainly the move was not made as early as 1782, as stated in the Kentucky Advocate of August 7, 1937, in an article entitled "Early State History Given in Davis Record." This reference was as follows: "Augustine, William, Benjamin, and John Dunn of Maryland and Virginia (sic) came to Kentucky during 1782, and settled on Dicks River near Azariah Davis station. They were the ancestors of Garrard and Boyle County Dunns."--Clipping furnished by Mrs. Margaret Dunn Frye of Somerset, Kentucky, with letter of August 15, 1953.

virtually retired as early as 1790, and that after the sale of "Hard Struggle" in 1795 they may have made their home with William, Jr., who as eldest son was soon to drop the "Junior" and sign as plain William Dunn. It seems logical to assume, however, that such a long and arduous trip would be undertaken only as a group, and possibly with the addition of some of their "in-laws" and neighbors who are later also found to be living in Kentucky.

First Purchases of Land in Kentucky.— Whether they went as a group or singly, Augustine Dunn was the first to buy land in Kentucky, in October, 1798. William Dunn was the next to own land there, in June, 1799. As there is no later record that William, Sr. ever owned land in Kentucky, it is believed that this purchase was made by William, Jr., although the "Jr." is not shown. No purchases of land by Benjamin Dunn are recorded until 1802, but he may have been there as early as his brothers, William Jr. and Augustine. The deeds covering these transactions are on file in the Garrard County Court House in Lancaster, Kentucky. Such deeds include the following transfers: In October 1798 Augustine Dunn bought 230 acres from William Lamme, on Dicks (Dix) River for a consideration of 300 pounds sterling (Deed Book A, pp. 198-199); on June 3, 1799 William Dunn (no Junior is shown) bought 272 acres from William and Frances Bryant, located on Boon's Mill and Scott Creek, a branch of Dicks River, consideration being 425 pounds of "current money" (Deed Book A, pp. 225-226); in 1802 Benjamin Dunn bought 95 acres on Dicks River (Deed Book B, p. 285), 62 3/4 acres in 1804 (Deed Book A, p. 539), 45 1/2 acres in 1808 (Deed Book C, p. 356), and still more land in later years. All of this land was situated in the modern village of Bryantsville (named after the William Bryant mentioned above), which is some 10 miles from Lancaster, the county seat of Garrard County. Here the Dunns settled and lived for many years.

Which one of the sons of William Dunn carried the old "lap box" containing the family mementos is not known. These relics included the "copy" of Richard Shekell's will, the commission of Osburn Dunn as lieutenant in the Maryland militia, and perhaps the family Bibles of one or more of the sons. No family Bible of William and Mary Dunn

has been preserved. It is also a tradition that the gold with which Augustine Dunn purchased his land in Kentucky was carried in this box. This original box, with its contents, was handed down in the Augustine Dunn branch, and has been treasured by his descendants down to the present time. The story of this box will be told in greater detail later in this narrative.

Kentucky and the Wilderness Road. - It is not strange that the William Dunn family chose Kentucky as their new home. The fame of that region, which was organized as a State in 1792, had spread throughout the length and breadth of the now independent Thirteen Colonies. By that time more than 70,000 settlers had streamed across the mountains into the new commonwealth. As early as 1784 John Filson had written his booklet, "The Discovery, Settlement, and Present State of Kentucky," and it had a wide circulation throughout the Atlantic Seaboard. Filson gave a detailed itinerary of the route from Philadelphia to the Falls of the Ohio River, a distance of 826 miles. But it was a more southerly route known as the "Wilderness Road" along which the pioneers from Maryland, Virginia, and the Carolinas customarily traveled via the famous Cumberland Gap of the Appalachian Mountains.

By 1790 the last menace from hostile Indians had been eliminated, and after statehood was achieved by Kentucky there was growing interest in improving the "Wilderness Road." Postal service was established over this route in 1792, and the Ohio River gateway was abandoned during the winters. In November, 1795, Governor Shelby of Kentucky appointed a commission to build a good wagon road through the Cumberland Gap into Virginia, and funds were appropriated for this purpose. By October, 1796 the work was completed, and notices were circulated throughout the Eastern states that "waggons loaded with a ton of weight, may pass with ease with four good horses." Travelers were also told that they could find comfortable accommodations and all necessities along the entire route. Of course, standards in those days were not very high, either as to quality of the road or the accommodations.. Thus, the old pack-horse trail was being transformed into a passable wagon road, and the danger of attack from the Indians was a thing of the past when William Dunn sold his farm in Maryland

at the end of 1795. The most serious obstacles to moving West had been dissipated.<sup>1</sup>

Last Years of William and Mary Dunn.— The role of William and Mary Dunn in the Maryland era of the Dunn family was waning when the decision to move to Kentucky was made. Very little of importance remains to be told of their life histories in either Maryland or Kentucky. William lived until 1808, as shown by an inventory of the estate of "William Dunn, deceased, of Garrard County", Kentucky. This inventory was dated July 8, 1808, and in December, 1811 the settlement of the estate was recorded. Its value was given as \$1,658, of which amount Mary Dunn received \$448, and \$242 each went to Augustine, John, and Benjamin Dunn, and to Thomas Wilson and Nathan Douglas, husbands of the two daughters of William and Mary Dunn. William Jr. was not mentioned, probably due to the fact that as eldest son he had already received his share and owned the land on which his parents lived with him. (Inventory and settlement are recorded in Will Book C, pp. 237-239, County Clerk's Office, Lancaster, Garrard County, Kentucky.)

Mary S \_\_\_\_\_ Dunn survived her husband by about seven years. Her last will and testament was dated January 8, 1811, but was not filed for probate until November, 1815. She evidently died late in 1815. The will provided: "I give and bequeath to my son, Wm. Dunn, 1 bay mare, one cow and calf, 2 beds and furniture, all the farming tools, household furniture, kitchen equipment, etc., that was purchased for me by my son Augustine Dunn and others at my deceased husband's sale. . . Lastly I constitute my son, Wm. Dunn, executor to this my last will and testament." (Will Book "D", pp. 266-267, Lancaster, Kentucky.) This document might indicate that William and Mary Dunn maintained a separate home of their own up to the time of their respective deaths.

Both William and Mary Dunn are believed to have been buried on one of their son's farms, near Bryantsville, Kentucky, but no identification of their graves has been made.

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<sup>1</sup> For an interesting account of the history and development of this route to Kentucky see Robert L. Kincaid's "The Wilderness Road," published by the Lincoln Memorial University Press, Harrogate, Tennessee, 1955.

The monuments, if any, have crumbled, and the sites have been lost. Few of their Kentucky or Texas descendants ever heard of these ancestors, who evidently divided up most of their property and cash among their children while yet living, and therefore lived to a dependent but comfortable old age. None of the family Bibles handed down contained any reference to them. Mrs. Margaret Dunn Frye, of Somerset, Kentucky, a descendant of Augustine Dunn, was one of the few who knew of William and Mary Dunn. So far as is known, James McMurry Dunn nor any of his children ever heard of these ancestors or knew that they had lived in Maryland. Before closing Chapter I of this history, the scanty information that is available on the early Maryland era before 1769 and the pre-Maryland era will be reviewed.

Speculation on the Dunn Family Prior to 1769.—There is a tradition in the James McMurry Dunn family that their ancestors came from County Derry, Northern Ireland, and that the first emigrants to America were three brothers, one of whom settled in Pennsylvania, one in Maryland, and one in North Carolina. This tradition is so similar to that of so many early families that it must be taken with a grain of salt. However, it was related by James McMurry Dunn to Mrs. Frances Embry Davis, who is herself a descendant of William Dunn and great-niece of J. M. Dunn, about the year 1923. Mrs. Davis wrote it down as J. M. Dunn told it to her, and has furnished this author with the original draft of her notes. None of the surviving members of the J. M. Dunn family ever heard of this tradition, but it must contain a modicum of truth.

Whether William Dunn was himself an immigrant and one of the original three brothers, or was the son of one of the immigrants remains a mystery. In all likelihood, he was born in Maryland, and his father came over to America in one of the great waves of Scotch-Irish migration which took place in 1718-19 or earlier when times in the old country were especially difficult.<sup>1</sup> There was a distinct Irish flavor in the William Dunn family for several generations. James McMurry Dunn often sang Irish songs and

<sup>1</sup> See Dunaway, "The Scotch-Irish of Colonial Pennsylvania," University of North Carolina Press, 1944.

ditties which he had heard in his youth. Mrs. Margaret Dunn Frye, of Somerset, Kentucky a great-granddaughter of Augustine Dunn and a genealogist in her own right, also believed that William Dunn was born in Maryland. Circumstantial evidence to this effect exists in the marriage records of the Maryland Historical Society in Baltimore, as follows:

On April 3, 1722 a William Dunn and Mary Stokeley, both of Westminster Parish, Anne Arundel County, Maryland, were joined in matrimony. On June 2, 1716 John Dunn and Mary Walker were married in St. Ann's Parish in the same County. There is a bare possibility that one of these couples, especially the former, were the parents of William Dunn, who signed the Sheckell will in 1769. However, no positive proof of such kinship has yet been established. (These two marriages appear in the records of St. Ann's Parish, pages 419 and 396 respectively, Baltimore, Maryland). The marriage date of William Dunn and Mary Stokeley fits the chronology of William Dunn, Ancestor No. 1. If they were married in 1722, William Dunn, No. 1, could have been born in 1723 or 1724, and would have been approximately 25 years of age, when he married Mary S. in the early 1750's. The dates, ages and residence in Anne Arundel County all support this hypothesis. If this were true, it would mean that the present William Dunn, Ancestor No. 1, would become Ancestor No. 2, and that the William Dunn who married Mary Stokeley in 1722 would be one of the original emigrant brothers who settled in Maryland. At present, this theory is pure conjecture, and in the absence of more positive proof, William Dunn, witness to the 1769 will, must be regarded as Ancestor No. 1.

Whether the father of William Dunn, No. 1, migrated from Northern Ireland to Pennsylvania with two brothers, and was originally a Quaker who removed to Maryland, is a question which remains unanswered. Very few lists of ships' passengers emigrating from the British Isles were kept in those days, especially from Northern Ireland. U. S. Census records did not require citizens to state the place of their birth until 1850. Prior to that year only the names of heads of families were recorded, without mention of their birth place. No other clue to William Dunn's antecedents in Maryland

have been found except for those already mentioned. It must be admitted that a blank wall exists before 1769, with the possible exception of a relationship with William and Mary Stokeley Dunn, or even with John Dunn and Mary Walker of St. Ann's Parish.

Miscellaneous Notes on the Maryland Era. - Identification of William Dunn, No 1, before 1769 has not been possible in any of the many Maryland records that have been examined, except for the birth of Hannah Dunn in 1753, assuming that she was the daughter of William and Mary Dunn, Ancestors No. 1. Search has been made in available church records where they might have registered the marriages and births of the family, but nothing definite has been found. If they were Quakers at first, they would not necessarily have entered these vital statistics in Anglican churches. Quaker records also fail to disclose any trustworthy information about them.

Quite a few references to various Dunns may be found in the various indices in the Hall of Records at Annapolis, Md., for both Anne Arundel and Frederick Counties, but they are so fragmentary as to be of little or no value. Most of these references are under "Testamentary Proceedings" and "Inventories & Accounts," which usually merely give the names, counties, years, and meaningless figures. Some of these references are as follows:

Anne Arundel County

1717	John Dunn, Inventories & Accounts,	Liber C, folio 97.
1718	Capt. Joseph Dunn, Test. Proceedings,	Liber 23, f. 210.
1720	Mary Dunn, Testamentary Proceedings,	Liber 24, f. 288.
1748	Dennis Dunn, Testamentary Proceedings,	Liber 32, f. 177.
1754/55	James Dunn, Testamentary Proceedings,	Liber 36, ff. 8, 19.
1754	William Dunn, Testamentary Proceedings,	Liber 36, ff. 8, 19, 37.
1767	John Dunn, Testamentary Proceedings,	Liber 42, f. 143.
1775	William Dunn, Accounts,	Liber 72, f. 64.

Frederick County

1755	Margaret Dunn, Inventories	Liber 59, f. 239.
1758	Mary Dunn, Testamentary Proceedings,	Liber 37, f. 21.
1755/56	Margaret Dunn, Testamentary Proceedings,	Liber 36, f. 143.
1757/58	Margaret Dunn, Testamentary Proceedings,	Liber 41, f. 336.
1758	Mary Dunn, Testamentary Proceedings,	Liber 37, f. 21.
1758	Margaret Dunn, Administrative Accounts,	Liber A#1, f. 157.

An examination of the foregoing references revealed nothing which could identify any of the Dunns mentioned, the information usually consisting of only one line. Only in the case of Margaret Dunn was mention made that she was a Quaker. The amounts involved were also very small. Some of these Dunns may have been parents or grandparents of William Dunn, No. 1, but it has been impossible to establish any kinship from the foregoing scanty records.

In Rock Creek Church, District of Columbia, there is an entry of the birth of Elizabeth, daughter of Hugh Smith Dunn and Ailsee, his wife, on June 17, 1764. On September 25, 1759, a Hugh Smith Dunn recorded a mortgage of 35 pounds and 6 shillings against J. Thomas James, Sr., planter, of Frederick County, for debts that the former had guaranteed. This Dunn was referred to as a "school master." (Liber U, folio 64, Frederick, Md.) Other deeds recorded by Hugh Smith Dunn were found in Liber P, f. 621 (October 26, 1773) and in Liber H, f. 295 (February 8, 1763), also in Frederick. Hugh Smith Dunn appears in the 1800 census of Montgomery County, Maryland, with one son, one daughter, wife, and 3 slaves. No other names are given except the head of family.

It has been impossible to establish any connection between Hugh Smith Dunn and William Dunn, No. 1, but they may have been related. If such was the case, however, the former did not migrate to Kentucky when the William Dunn family went, nor does he appear in Kentucky. If Hugh Smith Dunn was named for his maternal grandfather, Hugh Smith, his mother may have been a sister of William Dunn's wife Mary, and his father a brother of William Dunn, No. 1. In such case, they "Mary S. Dunn" found on one deed may have signified "Mary Smith Dunn." Again this theory is highly speculative and has no factual basis in the light of evidence presently available.

As of further possible interest, it may be mentioned that Abraham and Ann Sheckels (sic) recorded the birth of a son (sic), Frances, on September 20, 1764 in Rock Creek Church, District of Columbia (formerly St. Paul's Church of Prince

George's Parish). This must have been the same Abraham Shekels, who was born November 15, 1735 in Anne Arundel County, son of John and Frances Shekels, as recorded in St. James' Parish Register, page 387 (Maryland Historical Society Library, Baltimore, Maryland). Abraham Shekels' grandfather, Abraham Birkhead, gave his son-in-law, John Shekels, a lot in Bristol Town, Maryland, also called Pigg's Point. (See supra, page 5.)

With these miscellaneous notes, the chapter on William Dunn, Ancestor No. 1, will now be closed. The story now turns to the next of the direct line of the James McMurry Dunn family of Kentucky and Texas, viz: Benjamin Dunn, Ancestor No. 2.

## CHAPTER II

### BENJAMIN DUNN, ANCESTOR NO. 2

Early Life of Benjamin Dunn.— While Benjamin Dunn was, it is believed, the youngest of the sons of William and Mary Dunn, his life story now becomes of primary importance in the annals of the James McMurry Dunn family, as he was their direct ancestor, No. 2. Benjamin Dunn was born in Maryland on August 12, 1762, and died in Kentucky on April 11, 1851 at the age of 89. He first appears of record in the 1790 census of Montgomery County, Maryland, and was shown as being the only male in the group of "16 years or over and including heads of families." No females were indicated in any of the female age groups. He owned 9 negro slaves.

Benjamin Dunn was 28 years old in 1790, and was either unmarried or a widower without children, almost certainly the former. He does not appear in the 1800 census of Maryland, but does reappear in the 1810 census of Garrard County, Kentucky and later ones together with other members of the William Dunn family. (The 1800 census records of Kentucky were destroyed when the British burned the Capitol in Washington during the War of 1812.) Whether Benjamin Dunn was born in Anne Arundel County or Montgomery County has not been determined. He married Margaret Hocker, daughter of Nicholas Hocker, of Lower Newfoundland Hundred, Montgomery County, Maryland. She was born on January 16, 1775 and died on March 19, 1855. The date of their marriage has not been preserved or found, but they were probably married in 1791 or early 1792.

The best evidence as to the approximate date of their marriage is provided in the family Bible of the Hogan Ballard family, who still live near Bryantsville, Kentucky, in the section where the William Dunn family settled. This source records the marriage of John Hogan to Mary, daughter of Benjamin Dunn, and gives the date of her birth as April 4, 1793; of her death as April 23, 1870. Elizabeth, another daughter of Benjamin and Margaret Dunn, was married to Joseph Hocker in Kentucky on or about January 17, 1811, when her father authorized the marriage bond to be

issued.<sup>1</sup> It is therefore clear that Benjamin and Margaret Dunn were married in Maryland before the Dunns migrated to Kentucky near the close of the century. How many of their ten children were born in Maryland is not known with certainty.<sup>2</sup>

Location of Dunn Homesteads in Kentucky.— The first purchases of land in Kentucky by members of the William Dunn family have already been mentioned (see page 19.) As stated, Augustine Dunn was the first to record a deed in 1798, when he bought 230 acres from William Lamme on Dick's River (now Dix River) for 300 pounds (Deed Book A, pp. 198-199, Lancaster, Ky.) On June 3, 1799 William Dunn had a deed recorded covering the purchase of 272 acres on "Boon's Mill and Salt Creek, a tributary of Dick's River," for 425 pounds of "current money." The grantors were William and Frances Bryant, after whom Bryantsville was named. (Ibid., Deed Book A, pp. 225-226.) Whether this purchase was made by William Dunn, Sr. or by William Dunn, Jr. is not clear. No "Junior" is shown in the abstract of the deed, but Mrs. Margaret Dunn Frye does not believe that William Dunn, Sr. ever owned land in Kentucky, as no mention of any land appears later in his will or in the settlement of his estate. (The name of William Dunn, Sr. and his four sons appear in "A List of Tax-payers in Kentucky" as being in Garrard County in 1800.)<sup>3</sup>

Benjamin Dunn's first purchase of land was recorded in 1802, consisting of 95 acres on Dick's River (Ibid., Deed Book B, p. 285) followed by purchases of 62 3/4 acres in 1804 (Deed Book A, p. 539), 45 1/2 acres in 1808 (Deed Book C, p. 356), and still others for later years which are found in the Deed Book indexes. All of this land was situated in the vicinity of the present village of Bryantsville.

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<sup>1</sup>This marriage bond is on file in the County Clerk's Office, Lancaster, Ky.

<sup>2</sup>The exact dates of Benjamin and Margaret Hocker Dunn were obtained from a family Bible owned by Miss Annie Dunn, great-granddaughter of Benjamin Dunn, and aunt of Joe T. Embry of Stanford, Ky. (letter of Joe T. Embry to William E. Dunn, dated May 2, 1953.) No knowledge of the dates of Benjamin and Margaret Dunn was handed down in the James McMurry Dunn family. (Cousin Annie Dunn died on April 30, 1951.)

<sup>3</sup>List compiled by Glenn Clift, Kent Historical Society, Frankfurt, Ky., published privately. This would indicate that William Dunn, Sr. owned taxable property in 1800.

Mr. John William Dunn, of Fort Pierce, Florida, a descendant of Augustine Dunn, had some correspondence with Mrs. Margaret Dunn Frye in 1943 concerning the location of the Dunn homesteads in the Bryantsville section. He also drew a rough sketch of that vicinity, as he remembered it from his boyhood. Mr. Dunn and Mrs. Frye differ somewhat in their views as to where certain properties were located. He wrote Mrs. Frye in October, 1943 as follows:

I am enclosing a sketch (I am not an engineer and it certainly is a rough sketch and not drawn to scale) of the Lexington Pike and Mt. Hebron Road, which shows the approximate location of various farms owned by some of our relatives. I would judge from your letter that you are of the opinion that the property on which my Grandfather (John William Dunn, Sr.) lived just south of Bryantsville was the original location of his home. However, this is not the case, as his original home is shown at the right and near the top of the sketch.

He sold the original home, which was a short distance from the old Mt. Hebron Church, to Alex Dean about 1900, and purchased the place below Bryantsville known as the "Brier Jones Farm." The place where I was born was just a short distance from Grandpa's old farm and right across the road from the Mt. Hebron Church. This house was later burned, but it was after my Father sold it and moved to Lexington about 1893 or 1894.

I don't believe the Gene Berkele property could have been part of the lands originally settled by the Dunn brothers, as I am of the opinion that their lands must have lain along the Mt. Hebron Road and the Lancaster-to-Lexington Pike, since the homes of my Grandfather, Father, Cousin Jack Dunn, Uncle Dick McGrath, Aunt Sallie Moore, and Uncle "Bud" Dunn (who was either a brother or half-brother of my grandmother, Hannah Cooper Dunn) all lay along these two roads, and were occupied by the respective families during my memory. The land owned by Gene Berkele was several miles away from these tracts. The only way to establish this belief would be to check the original lands owned by the original brothers from Garrard County records.

My Grandfather's land lay on both sides of the Mt. Hebron Road, and I recall very distinctly an old graveyard across the road in front of his house, which was possibly 500 to 600 yards away on the top of a hill. . . . but I have no idea as to who might have been buried there. With the passing years all trace of it would be gone.

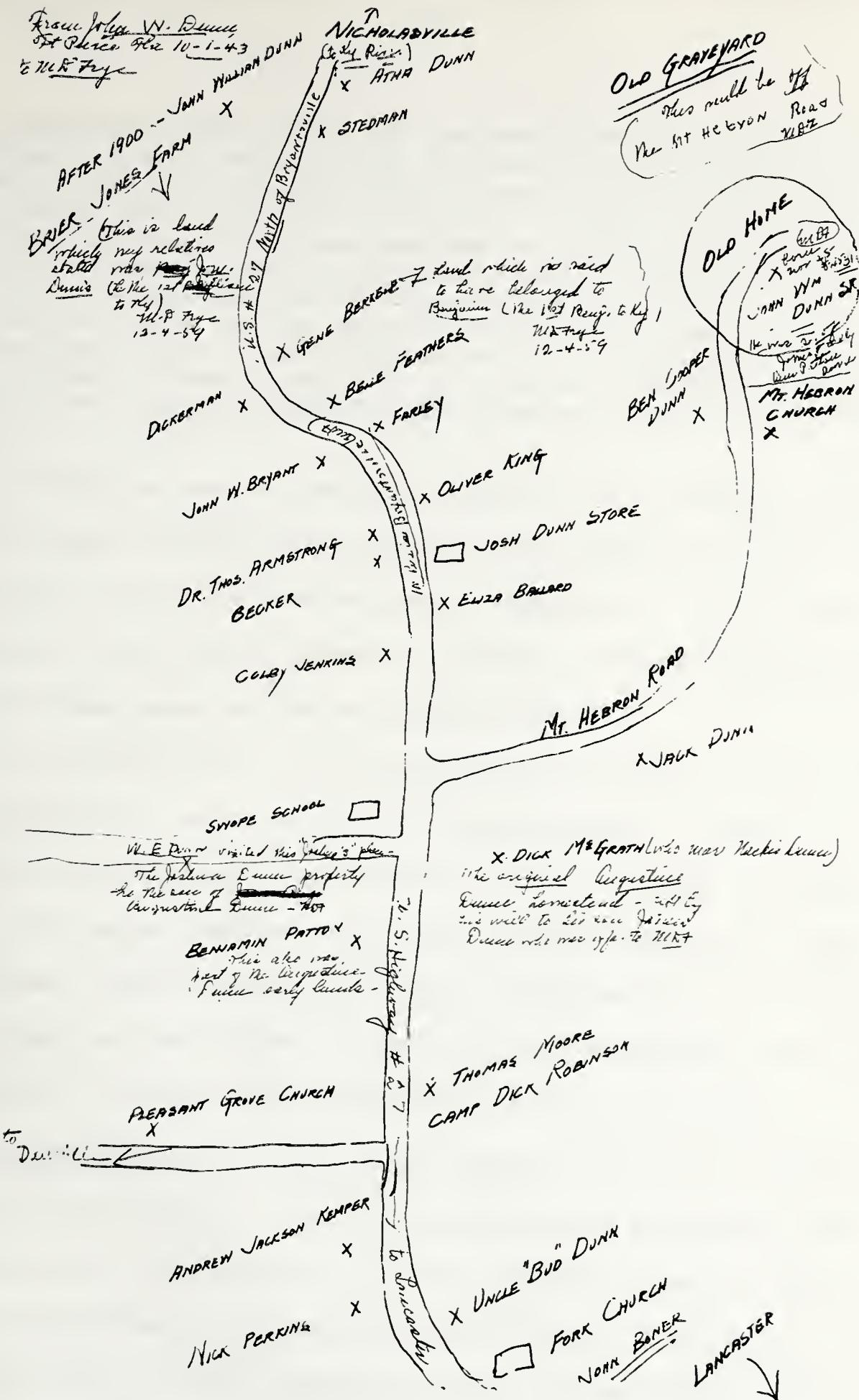
I have been over every inch of the lands owned by Gene Berkele and that owned by my Grandfather below Bryantsville, and can definitely state there was not a graveyard on either of these places.<sup>1</sup> (Note by Mrs. Frye: These two places were, according to my aunt and uncle, where William Jr. and Benjamin Dunn settled.)

Mrs. Frye had a somewhat different opinion on certain details. She wrote:

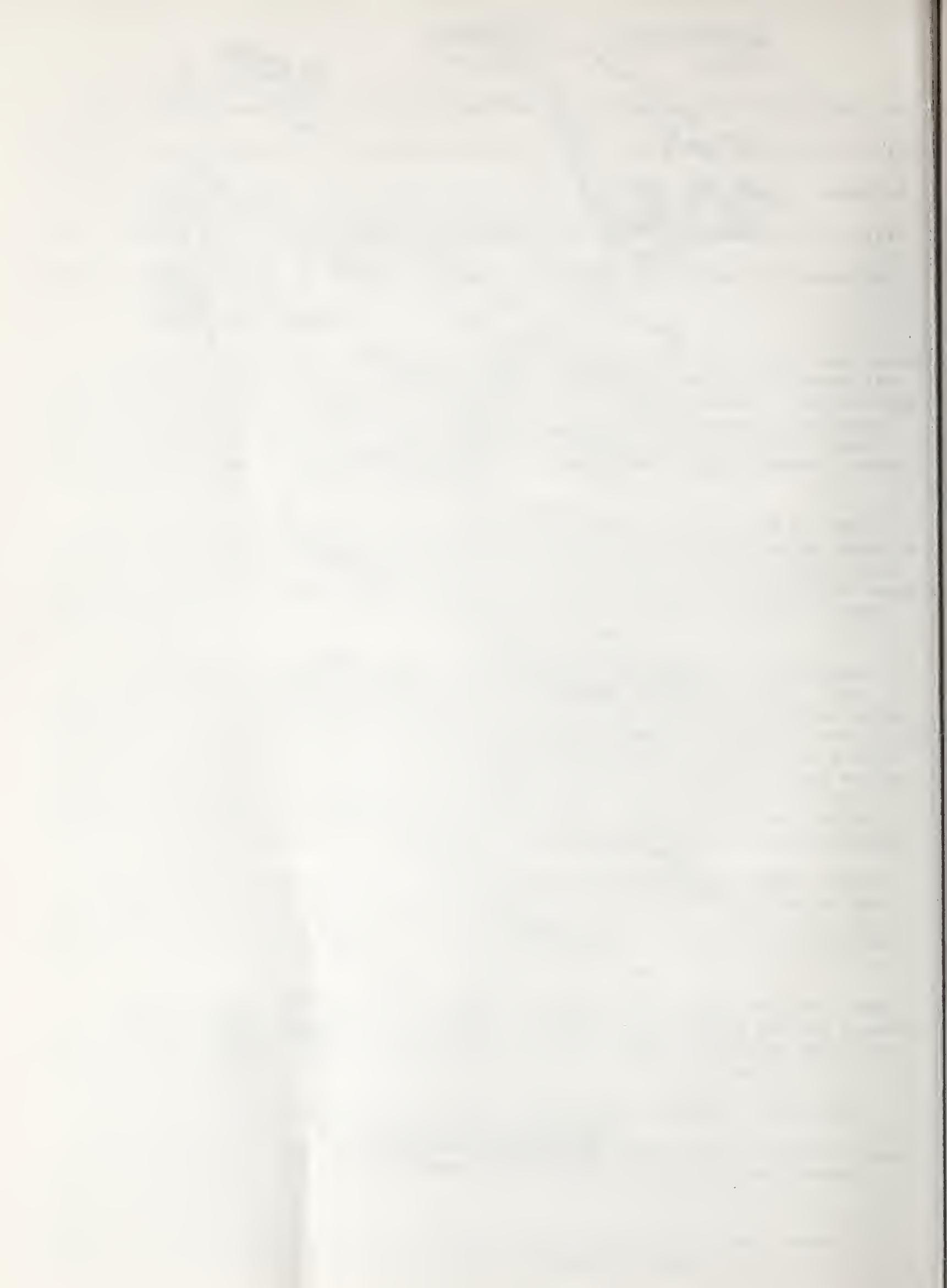
From my aunts, uncles, and cousins I have the idea (and it is in my notes somewhere) that the two brothers, John and Augustine, settled adjoining each other.

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<sup>1</sup>Letter of John William Dunn to Mrs. Margaret Dunn Frye, Oct. 1, 1943, loaned to William E. Dunn with the writer's permission in December, 1959.



Sketch Map of Bryantsville, Ky.  
and Vicinity near which  
early Dunns settled



Augustine's home was on the right of the road near Bryantsville, going to that place from Lancaster. By will he left to his son Joshua some land which lay on the left, off the present road, and is approached by a cross road. A lovely old house stood back there, Joshua Dunn's place of my childhood. The right turn on this same cross road would take one back of the Augustine Dunn land toward that of his brother John (always called "Jackie" by family references to him). I was also told that William and Benjamin Dunn settled down the road toward the river, that is on toward Lexington from Bryantsville, one on the land where Hogan Ballard now lives, and the other across the road from him. I have no deeds to prove any of this except for my own Augustine. My idea is that Mrs. Skinner lived a few years ago on the Berkele place of my childhood, which I have in mind as being once the property of one of the four early Dunn brothers.

Which of these two Dunn descendants is correct it is impossible to say. An actual survey based on the abstract of deeds in the Garrard County Court House would be impracticable at this late date and really unnecessary. Mr. J. W. Dunn's sketch, together with Mrs. Frye's notes thereon, is probably the best evidence of the location of the old homesteads that can be provided today.<sup>1</sup>

The old Joshua Dunn place, now owned by the Arnold family, is about two miles south of Bryantsville. Joshua was a son of Augustine Dunn. A family burial plot may still be found on this property, and contains a number of graves of members of the Dunn, Swope, and Frazier families. The author visited this farm in 1953. He also visited the home of Hogan Ballard, whose great-grandmother was a daughter of Benjamin Dunn. John Hogan was born October 31, 1791 and died November 26, 1834. He married Mary, a daughter of Benjamin and Margaret Dunn, as previously stated.

Sketch of Benjamin Dunn.— Just where Benjamin Dunn lived in the Bryantsville section is still undetermined. The best clue seems to be Mrs. Frye's belief that he lived on land that was later known as the "Gene Berkele" property. Whether this homesite was anywhere near the 95 acres on Dick's River that he bought in 1802, and the later tracts that he owned, cannot be stated. The descendants of the Dunn brothers in Kentucky were apparently not very historical-minded, especially those of Benjamin Dunn. No incidents of his life in Kentucky have been handed down. Most of the information that is available about him is derived from his last will and testament,

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<sup>1</sup>A copy of Mr. Dunn's sketch is reproduced opposite page 29.

the sale and settlements of his estate, and one or two other documents. From these meager sources, a sketch of his personality will be attempted.

Benjamin Dunn was undoubtedly a typical product of the Kentucky pioneer era. He was always known as "Ben" Dunn. The author remembers that he was once told that his great-grandfather was so named, that information being buried deep in his memory, and only coming out when this narrative was begun. Ben Dunn was evidently an industrious and thrifty farmer in the Dunn tradition. Not having married until he was about 30 years of age, he apparently had early determined to become a man of some substance. In 1790 he owned 9 negro slaves, whom he probably brought with him to Kentucky. The date of his first deed, in 1802, may indicate that he did not decide to settle in Kentucky until he was sure that it was a wise move. He was obviously a cautious and conservative young man. From his will it is known that he accumulated what was a considerable estate for a farmer in those days. No record as to his church affiliation has been preserved, but it is likely that he was a Methodist, as were several of his children.

That he was a man of prominence in his community is apparent from the fact that he was a member of the first grand jury to be convened in Garrard County.<sup>1</sup> This item, however, is practically the only public one that is known concerning his life in Kentucky. He lived the life of the average Kentucky pioneer, with his wife, Margaret, and rearing a large family of ten children. No letters, documents or photographs of either of them have been handed down. If any exist, it is not known which of their descendants now possess them.

Besides his will and settlements, only two official documents pertaining to Benjamin Dunn have been found, both in Lancaster. One is an order from Benjamin Dunn authorizing a marriage license to be issued for his daughter Elizabeth, to marry Joseph Hocker. It reads:

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<sup>1</sup>Forrest Calico, "History of Garrard County and Its Churches," page 17, New York, 1947.

Mr. Benjamin Letcher, Sir- Please to issue Licence for Joseph Hocker to marry my Daughter Elizabeth Dunn- And this shall be your justification. Given under my hand this 17th January 1811. Benjamin Dunn  
Atteste: Alfred Hocker<sup>1</sup>

The other reference is found in the will of Nicholas Hocker, probated on March 8, 1813. Paragraph 4 reads as follows:

"I give to my daughter Margaret Hocker, wife of Benjamin Dunn, one negro named Cloe (sic), together with all the children and Increase, they being now in the possession of said Dunn." (Nicholas Hocker did not sign his name, but only made his mark, probably because he was too feeble and not because of illiteracy.)<sup>2</sup>

Just how Benjamin Dunn acquired his 9 slaves in Maryland is not known. He may have bought them with money that he himself had earned, or some of them may have been turned over to him by his father, William Dunn. By the time of his death in 1851, he had acquired property valued at \$18,850, including the amounts advanced to his children during his lifetime. He was apparently a good business man and careful of his money, for he required his children to sign notes for the amounts advanced to them. He still owned 8 slaves when he died.

Children of Benjamin and Margaret Hocker Dunn.- The only written record of the children of Benjamin and Margaret Dunn that was handed down to his descendants was apparently one contained in a letter from Mrs. Francis Skinner, of Bryantsville, Kentucky, to Mrs. T. E. Adams, of Sharpsburg, Kentucky, in 1946. Mrs. Skinner was a granddaughter of Margaret Dunn Robinson. Mrs. Adams was Katie McGrath Adams, daughter of Richard A. and Nackie Jane Dunn McGrath, who in turn was the youngest child of James Dunn, son of Augustine and Eleanor Aldridge Dunn. This record, which was incomplete and erroneous in some details, was as follows:

Benjamin Dunn, born May 12, 1762; died March--, 1851; married Margaret McMurray, born Jan. 16, 1776, died March 19, 1855. (This is an obvious error, and should be Margaret Hocker. The dates given for her are correct.)

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<sup>1</sup>Marriage Bonds, County Clerk's Office, Lancaster, Ky.

<sup>2</sup>Ibid., "Wills," 78-79

Children: William F. (Fletcher?) Dunn, born Jan. 16, 1801, died May 2, 1831.  
Isaiah Dunn, born May 16, 1811, died July 28, 1852.  
George Dunn (no dates given.) (He is Ancestor No. 3, and his dates  
are well known.)  
Margaret Dunn (Robinson), born April 4, 1812, died April 27, 1906  
(Age 94).  
Polly Dunn (Hogan)  
Sallie Dunn (Myers)  
Betsy Dunn (Hocker)

Polly Dunn Hogan was the great-grandmother of Hogan Ballard, who lives near  
Bryantsville, Ky.

Jesse Hocker of Stanford, Ky., is the great grandson of Betsey Dunn Hocker.

One of Uncle George Dunn's daughters married L. M. Drye of Hustonville, Ky.  
(Mr. Don Drye is a descendant of this family).

Grandma Robinson's oldest daughter married Charles Spillman.

This is the end of Mrs. Skinner's letter to Mrs. Adams. Her list only gives  
7 of Benjamin Dunn's 10 children, as proven by those mentioned in his last will and  
testament, as well as in the settlements of his estate. Incomplete as Mrs. Skinner's  
list is, it was the only one that was drawn up by any of Benjamin Dunn's descendants,  
so far as is known.

A more complete list of Benjamin and Margaret Dunn's children may be compiled  
from Benjamin's will and the settlements of his estate. The children do not seem  
to be named in the order of their ages either in the will or in the settlements,  
but appear as follows:

Nicholas H. (Hocker) Dunn  
George Dunn  
William Dunn  
Isaiah Dunn  
Elizabeth Hocker  
Sarah Myers  
Mary Hogan  
Dorcas (Darkey) Gilbert  
Margaret Robinson  
Gabriella Thompson

Nicholas Hocker Dunn died before Benjamin Dunn made his will in 1841, as he  
is referred to therein as "deceased." The date of his birth is unknown. William  
Dunn died on May 2, 1831 (born Jan. 16, 1806). Isaiah Dunn died on July 28, 1852  
(born May 16, 1811). The other seven children were apparently all living in 1854.

It is hoped that this study may come to the attention of descendants of some of these children of Benjamin and Margaret Dunn, and that records they may have preserved will be brought to light.

Last Will and Testament of Benjamin Dunn.— Benjamin Dunn died on April 11, 1851, at the age of 89, and his will was probated on April 14, 1851. It bore the date of July 27, 1841, revealing the fact that he died about ten years after the will was drawn up. This will is reminiscent of the will of Richard Shekell of Anne Arundel County, Maryland, in the desire to be fair to each child, and to make them all as nearly equal as possible. The abstract is on file in Will Book "M", pp. 322-323, in Lancaster, Garrard County, Kentucky, and the text is as follows:

Will of Benjamin Dunn, dec. d

I, Benjamin Dunn of the County of Garrard, being of sound mind and disposing memory and feel a desire that my wife should be provided for and all my children should have an equal share of my estate, after taking into consideration the advancements I have heretofore made to all my children, I deem it necessary that I should say what amt I have advanced to each of them, as follows:

To N. H. Dunn \$650	G. Dunn \$638	Wm. Dunn \$1100
Elizabeth Hocker \$415	Sarah Myers \$415	Mary Hogan \$415
Margaret Robinson \$415	Gabriella Thompson \$530	Isaiah Dunn \$580
		Darky Gilbert \$565

My wish is that my wife Margaret have 200 acres of my land to be laid off in convenient form to include the improvements and one-third of the choice of my negroes. As much of the household and kitchen furniture as she may think proper and one-third of all the ballance of my estate that I may have in hand, also as much of the crop of every kind as will be necessary to keep her one year, including pork, my wish is that my executors sell all my estate real and personal, upon such credit as he or they may think proper and convey the same to the purchaser or purchasers, and out of the proceeds of the sale, or out of any money that may come to their hands, to make all my children equal, taking into consideration the several sums I have advanced to each except Gabriella Thompson, and they my (Exor's) are hereby directed to make her equal by paying to Isaiah Dunn any amt that he has or may hereafter have to pay as security for her husband Davis Thompson provided her share should be sufficient to indemnify sd. Isaiah. If there should be more than enough, the ballance to be paid to Gabrilla (sic) or her or her representatives, but if said Thompson should pay and release sd. I, Dunn from all his liabilities, then she is to have one equal share of my estate, to be paid to her by my executors or to her children. I wish the share of N. H. Dunn Dcd. to be equally divided among his children, and I hereby appoint Isaiah and George Dunn my Executors for the purpose of carrying my wishes into effect and if one or both of them should refuse or fail to act my administrator or administrators are authorised to do everything my Executors could do to carry my wishes into effect. In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 27th of July 1841.

Witness Nelson Burdett

Benj<sup>n</sup> Dunn (seal)

Witnefs George Davis

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State of Kentucky  
Garrard County : ss

I Alex R McKee Clerk of the County Court for the County aforesaid do certify that the foregoing will of Benjamin Dunn Deceased was produced to Court at the April County Court 1851 and proven to be such by the oath of Nelson Burdett a subscribing witnefs thereto, who also testified that George Davis decd. another subscribing witnefs thereto signed the same as such in his presence & in the presence of the testator whereupon the same was approved and ordered to be recorded which is done accordingly,

April 14<sup>th</sup> 1851

Alexander R McKee clerk  
Garrard County Court

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(On outside: Benj.<sup>n</sup> Dunn's Will

1851. April County Court proven by Nelson Burdett  
a subscribing witnefs. See order

A. R. McKee

(Recorded in Will Book "M", pp. 322-323  
Lancaster, Garrard County, Ky)

Sale of Benjamin Dunn's Estate.— The "sale bill" of Benjamin Dunn's estate was dated August 27, 1851, and is a very interesting document. It gives the names of all buyers, the items sold, and the prices paid for each item. Such personal property as farm implements, bridles, harness, household utensils, tools, etc., brought fantastically low prices, but each one was listed. Two horses and a "waggon" were sold for \$196. Eight negro slaves constituted one of the most valuable parts of the estate, although "Katy Taken at nothing" was sold to the widow, Margaret Dunn, without charge. Land was listed as 318 1/2 acres, 16 acres of which brought \$12 per acre, 295 1/2 acres went at \$24.30 per acre, and 7 acres at \$77 per acre. Among the buyers appear the names of relatives and friends, including Joshua Dunn, Augustine Dunn, Mary Hogan, Isaiah Dunn (still living in August, 1851), George Dunn, Michael Robinson, and many others. Benjamin Mullins bought the bulk of the land, 295 1/2 acres, at \$24.30 per acre, or a total of \$7,180.65. (A Mary R. Mullins

married William Berkele, and their son, Eugene Berkele, married Sarah Hannah Dunn, daughter of John William Dunn, Sr., who lived near Bryantsville, Ky. (see page 42.) The Berkeles are said to have lived on land which once belonged to Benjamin Dunn, No. 2.

The total amount derived from the sale was stated as \$12,247.63, but the items shown on the list as copied by the author came to only \$11,059.09. There must have been a supplementary list or omissions of certain items which are not included in the official abstract. This list is so interesting that it is reproduced here in its entirety. The original is in Will Book, M, page 323, Lancaster, Ky.

Sale Bill of the Estate of Benjamin Dunn, deceased, Made Aug. 27, 1851

<u>Persons Named</u>	<u>Property</u>	<u>1151085</u>
Feathergale Adams	2 Pair Rope Gear for 10 cts.	.10
John Johnson	2 " " " " "	.10
Marion Pollard	2 " Ford " " 3.55	3.55
Joshua Dunn	2 Harness & 2 Bridles .35	.35
Jas H. Bright	2 Hip Straps & 2 Bridles 1.55	1.55
" " "	2 Hind Gear 8.75	8.75
Henry O. Sutton	1 Steel Yard .50	.50
Nelson Burdett	1 Ox Yoke .15	.15
Chas. G. Askins	1 Scythe & Cradle .45	.45
Feathergale Adams	1 " & Sneed .35	.35
James Cecil	1 " " " 1.00	1.00
Jones L. Adams	2 Drills for 1.50	1.50
Feathergale Adams	2 Hose "	.10
B. M. Jones	2 Do. & 1 Grub Hoe .65	.65
" " "	1 Iron Rake .05	.05
Jessee Yantis	1 Saw & Auger .70	.70
" "	1 Draw Knife & Hammer .40	.40
John Richardson	2 Corn Knives .25	.25
Feathergale Adams	1 pair Pincers .50	.50
" " "	1 Chop Axe .55	.55
" " "	1 Lot of Single Trees .40	.40
Chas. G. Askins	2 Double trees & Rings .30	.30
Moab Berry	2 Iron Wedges .75	.75
Marion Pollard	1 fifth chain and stretcher 2.20	2.20
Burress Compton	1 log chain .30	.30
Nelson Burdett	2 Reap Hooks .25	.25
ditto	4 Ditto .20	.20
"	2 " .25	.25
Henry Baughman	1 Cross Cut Saw 3.00	3.00
William Hoskins	1 oven & kettle .50	.50
Lorenzo Green	1 Grind Stone .40	.40
Henry A. Harris	3 old wheels & Pr.? 1.00	1.00

Samuel Johnson	1 Grid Iron & Pot	.25	.25
Bailey Richardson	2 Kettles	.30	.30
Jas. M. Ford	1 Large Kettle	1.75	1.75
Featherdale Adams	2 Hemp Brakes	.20	.20
Geo. Bowman	1 Large Harrow	2.20	2.20
Featherdale Adams	2 Shovel Ploughs	.50	.50
Geo. Bowman	2 Shovel Ploughs	.95	.95
J. H. Davis	2 old Cary "	.10	.10
ditto	2 ditto	.10	.10
Z. C. Meritt	2 carry plows	<u>.30</u>	.30
		38.05	
Joshua Dunn	1 waggon	31.00	
Augustine Dunn	1 Bay gelding (gelden)	100.00	
W. H. Pollard	1/2 black stallion	65.00	
Mary Hogan	1 sett silver table spoons	15.50	
Isaiah Dunn	1 negro man Alex	152.00	
Wm. Newbolt	1 negro man Chas.	500.00	
N. H. Jeter	1 girl Elizabeth	640.00	
Michael Robinson	1 woman Harriett & child	700.00	
Z C Merritt	Ditto Betty	30.00	
Margaret Dunn	Ditto Katy Taken at nothing	00.00	
Richard E. Carter	1 Negro man Elijah	856.12	
George Dunn	1 Bedstead & Bedding	20.00	
James Cecil	16 acres land at 12 per acre	192.00	
Benjamin Mullins	295 1/2 acres at \$24.30	7,180.65	
Isaiah Dunn	7 acres at \$77	<u>539.07</u>	
		11,059.09	

Settlements of Benjamin Dunn's Estate.— Two settlements of Benjamin Dunn's estate were made, the first dated October 21, 1853, and the final one on January 14, 1854. George E. Hackley was the administrator. Between these dates, at least two of the heirs were advanced money from the proceeds of the sale. On February 16, 1852 George Dunn received \$654 as part of his distributable share of the estate, and signed a receipt for the amount. On March 5, 1852 Margaret Dunn, the widow, signed the following receipt:

Recd. of G. E. Hackley, Administrator, with the will annexed of Benjamin Dunn, Deed. Five hundred dollars it being the amount to be paid to Margaret Dunn out of the sale of the negroes By agreement between Margaret Dunn & the heirs of said decedent. March 5<sup>th</sup>, 1852. (Signed) Margaret Dunn

Attest: Isaiah Dunn

Both of these receipts are on file in Will Book M, Lancaster, Ky., and the signatures thereto appear to be autographs. They are reproduced opposite page 38.

The two settlements are found in "Wills 979", in Lancaster. In the statement of December 5, 1853, the amount derived from the sale bill was stated as \$12,247.63.

The collection of several promissory notes, with interest, in the amount of \$680, brought this sum to \$13,127.63. Amounts advanced to the heirs, excluding the widow, came to \$5,723, making the total value of the estate \$18,850.63. The widow had agreed to give up land and other property which was sold by the administrator, and was to receive other property and \$2500 in cash in lieu thereof. She had been paid \$1833.33, leaving a balance due her of \$666.67. The complete text of this settlement was as follows:

Will and Settlement of Benjamin Dunn

George E. Hackley Admor with the will annexed of Benjamin Dunn dec.<sup>d</sup>

To said Dunn estate	Dr.
To amount of the sale bill of said estate	\$12, 247.63
Two notes on William Dunn one due 25th Decr. 1849 for \$60 the other due 1st January 1847 for \$43.50 after deducting credits amount collected on the two notes	131.00
One note on George Dunn due 1st January 1851 for \$90.00 amount collected	96.30
Note on Michael Robinson due 5th February 1847 for \$50.00 amount collected	65.00
Note on Philo Ingerson due 12th February 1845 for \$8.00 (not collectable)	8.00
Cash on hand at decedents death	105.00
Interest collected on sale notes as per memorandum furnished by the Admor, filed & marked H	<u>474.70</u>
	13,127.63

The above list of notes & cash on hand are taken from the inventory; the amount collected was furnished by the Admor.

The heirs of Benjamin Dunn dc.<sup>d</sup> are charged in said Dunn's will, with advancements made to them which must be set down as part of the estate, and are as follows:

N. H. Dunn	\$650.00	George Dunn	\$638.00	1288.00
William Dunn	1100.00	Isaiah Dunn	580.00	1680.00
Elizabeth Hocker	415.00	Sarah Myers	415.00	830.00
Mary Hogan	415.00	Darkey Gilbert	565.00	980.00
Margaret Robinson	415.00	Gabriella Thompson	530.00	<u>945.00</u>
		Whole amt. of estate		\$18,850.63

Summary of remainder of settlement:

Total bills paid by administrator:	\$3,061.97
Total debits	<u>18,850.63</u>
Balance	15,788.66

Widow agreed to give up land and other property which was sold by administrator. In lieu of this property thus given up by the widow for the benefit of the heirs she was to receive other property and \$2500 in money. She has received of the Adm. \$1833.33 which leaves yet going to sd. widow \$666.67.

Settlement dated 21st day of October 1853; James H. Letcher, Judge

Settlement made with George E. Hackley, Administrator, certified by Clerk William B. Mason, 5th of December 1853

(Copied by Wm. E. Dunn, May 15, 1953 at Lancaster, Ky.)

The final settlement of January 14, 1854 stated that the balance of \$15,121.99 chargeable to Administrator Hackley on October 21, 1853, had been reduced by certain expenditures of \$152.71 to the sum of \$14,969.28, which divided among the 10 children came to a payment of \$1496.93 for each of them. The amounts previously advanced to the heirs and the balance left in favor of each were specified. It is in this statement that William Dunn and Isaiah Dunn were indicated as having died, as their heirs were to receive their respective shares. Isaiah Dunn had apparently paid for his father's coffin, and he was shown as having been reimbursed in the amount of \$36.50. Joshua Dunn was referred to as Administrator of Isaiah Dunn, and he was reimbursed in the sum of \$75.63 for expenses he had incurred for the Benjamin Dunn estate. The text of this settlement is as follows:

Settlement of Estate of Benjamin Dunn

George E. Hackley Admor with the will annexed of Benjamin Dunn dec.<sup>d</sup>

To said Dunns Estate . . . . . D.<sup>r</sup>  
To amount charged against him at the date of a settlement made  
the 21st day of Octo<sup>r</sup> 1853 . . . \$15121.99

Credits

Paid Isaiah Dunn for coffin &c. Cer. <sup>t</sup> No. 1	\$36.50
" David C. Alspaugh Acc. <sup>t</sup> No. 2	24.28
" Sheriff of Garrard fee bill No. 3	1.05
" Same for tax of 1853 No. 4	9.75
" Clerk of Garrard three fee bills No. 5	4.00
" Josh. Dunn Ad. <sup>r</sup> of I. Dunn No. 6	75.63
" for making this settlement	.50
	\$152.71

whole amount chargeable to Adm.<sup>r</sup> . . . . 14,969.28

Autograph signatures of Benjamin Dunn and of his wife, Margaret Hocker Dunn,  
Great-Grandparents of Wm. E. and J. L. Dunn; of Isaiah Dunn, their  
Great Uncle; and of George Dunn, their Grandfather (Orig-  
inals in County Clerk's Office, Lancaster, Garrard  
County, Kentucky (May, 1953)

Mr Benjamin Letcher, Sir - Please to issue license  
for Joseph Hocker to marry my daughter Elizabeth  
Dunn. And this shall be your justification  
Given under my hand this 17<sup>th</sup> January 1811  
Attest  
Alfred Hocker.

Benjamin Dunn

Recd of G. E. Hackley Administrator with the will annexed  
of Benjamin Dunn Five hundred dollars it being the amount  
to be paid to ~~Margaret Dunn~~ out of the sale of the negro By agreement  
between Margaret Dunn & the heirs of said decedent  
March 5<sup>th</sup> 1852.

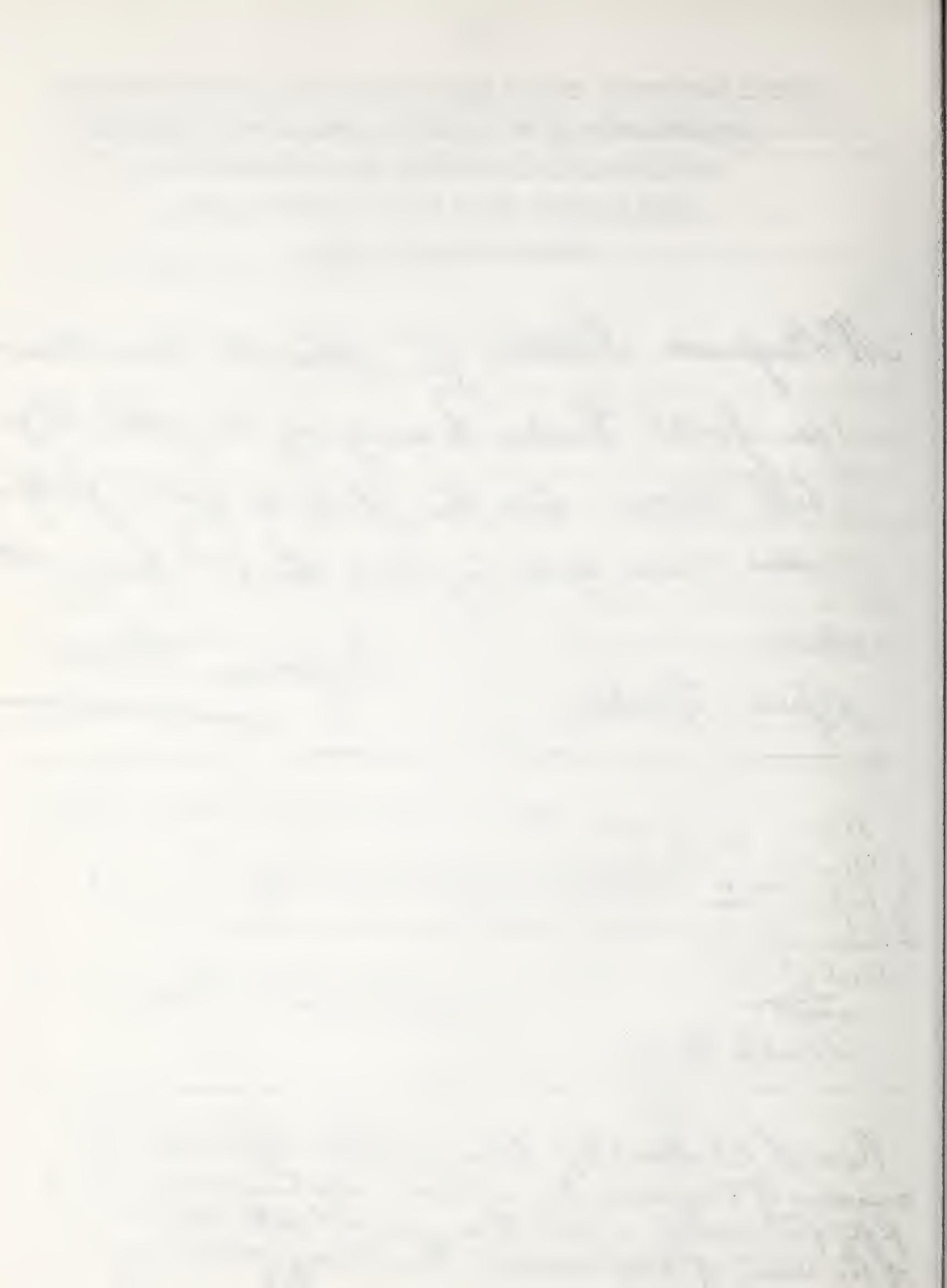
Attest

Isaiah Dunn

Margaret Dunn

Recd of G. E. Hackley Administrator with will  
annexed of Benjamin Dunn decedent Six hundred &  
fifty four dollars in part of my distributable share  
of the Estate of said decedent this 16<sup>th</sup> day of February  
1852.

George Dunn



There being ten devises, one tenth, or childs  
part of this sum is 1496.93

The account of the Adm<sup>r</sup> with the devises is as follows:

Nich. H. Dunns Heirs, one tenth as above	1496.93
Cr. By amt of credits in former settlement	<u>1166.66</u>
Due N. H. Dunns heirs	330.27
George Dunn - One share	\$ 1496.33
Cr. By amt. of credits in former settlement	<u>1292.00</u>
Due George Dunn	204.93
William Dunns Heirs - One share (ment	1496.93
Cr. By amt. of credits in former settle	<u>1100.00</u>
Due William Dunns Heirs	396.93
Isaiah Dunns Heirs - One tenth	1496.93
Ditto	<u>1100.00</u>
Due Isaiah Dunns Heirs	396.93
Elizabeth Hocker - one share	1496.93
Ditto	<u>1200.00</u>
	296.93
Sarah Myers - one share	1496.93
Ditto	<u>1100.00</u>
	396.93
Mary Hogan - one share	1496.93
	<u>1200.00</u>
	296.93
Darkey Gilbert - one share-	1496.93
	<u>1200.00</u>
	296.93
Margaret Robinson - one share	1496.93
	<u>1180.00</u>
	316.93
Gabriella Thompson - one share	1496.93
	<u>750.00</u>
	746.93
	Given under my hand this 14th
	day of January 1854
	James H. Letcher PJJGCC
	Approved 6th day of March 1854
	William B. Mason clerk

Death of Margaret Hocker Dunn.— Margaret, the widow of Benjamin Dunn, lived only about 14 months after the final settlement of her husband's estate was made. She died on March 19, 1855, at the age of 80. Of her four sons, three of them had predeceased her, and only George Dunn survived. He had been settled for about 20 years in Marion County, some distance from Bryantsville. Her six daughters were all living when she died. Which of them she lived with is not known. She may have maintained her own home up to the time of her death.

The graves of Margaret and Benjamin Dunn cannot be identified today. If Mrs. Frye is correct in her opinion that the Benjamin Dunn homestead was on or near the Gene Berkele property, they were probably buried in a private plot on their own land, or they may have been buried in a plot common to all of the Dunn brothers, perhaps on the land that belonged to Augustine Dunn (see page 29). Augustine Dunn died in 1836. The death dates of William Jr. and John (Jackie) Dunn are not yet known to this writer, but may be revealed through further research. The identity of Benjamin Dunn's two sisters remains a mystery, except for their husbands' names, as referred to in his father, William Dunn's, will and settlement.

Before closing Chapter II, it seems desirable to include such data as are available to the author concerning other Dunns in Kentucky, and also a detailed account of the history and fate of the "copy" of Richard Shekell's will. These sections will now follow:

Miscellaneous Notes on Other Dunns in Kentucky.— The lineage of Augustine Dunn is available in detailed form from both Mrs. Margaret Dunn Frye and Mr. John William Dunn, and as they both have given such valuable information for this study, condensed resumés from both these sources will be included here:

Mrs. Frye's Lineage: Augustine Dunn, born in Maryland on December 7, 1757; died in Garrard County, Ky., on January 25, 1837, at the age of 80. Married Eleanor Aldridge, born in Maryland Jan. 1, 1767; died Sept. 25, 1836. Their children were: John, William, Joshua, James, and Harriet. James Dunn, grandfather of Mrs. Frye, was born in Garrard County, Ky., Sept. 11, 1801; died Feb. 4, 1857; married Sally Ann Patton, born in Clark County, Ky., March 5, 1811; died in Garrard County March 4, 1895; married Nov. 6, 1827. One of their children was

James Dunn, father of Mrs. Frye, born Sept. 30, 1851, on the old Augustine Dunn homestead near Bryantsville, Ky., died July 28, 1919, at Danville, Ky. James married Mamie Huffman McRoberts on Aug. 23, 1832, in Lincoln County, Ky., who was born Dec. 23, 1862; died April 16, 1918. Their children were Eva, born March 6, 1885, married J. R. Ridings; no children. Margaret McRoberts, born Dec. 31, 1890, Boyle County, Ky., married Archie Spears Frye, on Jan. 12, 1912 (she is the Mrs. Frye referred to in this narrative). Mary Harvie, born Aug. 30, 1892, married Edmont P. Lane; one child, Edmont Dunn Lane, killed in World War II, Jan. 4, 1945.

Condensed lineage of John William Dunn.— Augustine Dunn, born Dec. 12, 1757, in Maryland; died Jan. 25, 1837 in Garrard County, Ky., according to stone at grave on farm he settled on after arriving in Kentucky. Married Eleanor Aldridge, born Jan. 1, 1767 in Maryland; died Sept. 25, 1836 in Garrard County. Buried on old Dunn farm near Bryantsville. Issue: John, William, Hariett (born--, died June 8, 1891), Joshua (born 1798, died June 8, 1891 (sic); married Swope); James, and Isaac, who died from being thrown by a horse.

James Dunn, son of Augustine and Eleanor Dunn; b. Sept. 11, 1801; died Feb. 5, 1857, having been born, died and buried on old Dunn farm. Married Nov. 6 1827 to Sally Ann Patton, daughter of John Patton and Sibyl Halley Patton, near Winchester, Ky. Issue: John William Sr., Elizabeth, Eleanor, Martha, Sibyl, Augustine Patton, Richard Simpson, Joshua, Mary (Polly), Mary Anne, James, and Nacky Jane.

Issue of James: Eva, Margaret McRoberts. Issue of Nacky Jane, who was born Feb. 26, 1855, married Richard A. McGrath, Sr. now deceased: Richard A., Jr., Katie, who married Thomas E. Adams (Katie McGrath Adams), who had one daughter, Mattie, now Mrs. John A. Dotson, of Athens, Georgia.

John William Dunn, Sr., son of James and Sally Anne Patton Dunn, born Nov. 28, 1831 in Garrard County; died Oct. 1905; buried Lancaster, Ky. First marriage to Hannah Cooper Dunn (died Sept. 9, 1864), daughter of Benjamin Dunn and Rosana Cooper Dunn. Hannah Cooper Dunn was granddaughter of John (Jackie) Dunn, brother of Augustine, William Jr. and Benjamin Dunn, and of Sallie Aldridge Dunn. Sallie was sister of Eleanor Aldridge Dunn, wife of Augustine Dunn. Issue of J. W. Dunn, Sr., Martha Leavell, Susan Allie, Sarah Hannah, (married Eugene Berkele, son of William Berkele and Mary R. Mullins Berkele), who had daughter, Edna King, married to Thomas Hedger (sic) Oliver in 1923 and living in Trinidad, Texas in 1943. Benjamin Cooper Dunn, b. Feb. 3, 1857; d. Dec. 19, 1896, Lancaster, Ky.

Benjamin Cooper Dunn, son of John William Dunn, Sr. and Hannah Cooper Dunn, married Oct. 27, 1886 at Pleasant Grove Christian Church, Garrard County, by the Rev. Stephenson to Ophelia Ann Kemper, daughter of Andrew Jackson Kemper and Martha Lawless Kemper. Their issue: Ethelbert Armstrong (daughter), married John M. Orrel; John William Dunn Jr., Augustine Patton Dunn (married Bertie Pauline McClure), Charles Kemper Dunn (married Elizabeth Pinkerton).

John William Dunn, Jr., son of Benjamin Cooper and Ophelia Ann Kemper Dunn, born Aug. 9, 1899, Bryantsville, Ky. Married May 17, 1920 to Elsie Chloe Johnston, at Chattanooga, Tenn. Daughter, Mary Carol Dunn, born Dec. 25, 1924, living in Washington, D.C., July 1960. (J. W. Dunn lives in Fort Pierce, Florida in July 1960, and is author of sketch of Dunn homesteads in and near Bryantsville, Ky.)

The Benjamin Dunn referred to in the Augustine Dunn lineage above was not Benjamin Dunn, Ancestor No. 2, but the latter's nephew. He is found in the August 9, 1850 census of Garrard County, Ky., as 63 years old, born in Maryland, farmer by occupation, married to Rosa Dunn, age 53, born in Virginia, and with the following children: Hannah 15, Cooper, 13, William G. 11, and Sarah 9. A notation appears opposite this entry, "married within the year: 2", indicating that Benjamin and Rosa were newly married and that the children were by a former wife. This Benjamin Dunn was undoubtedly the son of John (Jackie) Dunn, who married Sallie Aldridge, sister of Eleanor Aldridge, wife of Augustine Dunn. According to family tradition, this second Benjamin Dunn was married four times. In the same 1850 census, Benjamin Dunn, No. 2, was listed as being 85 years old, obviously an error, as he was then 88, and died in the following year.

Several other Dunns were shown in the 1850 census of Garrard County, all of them born in Kentucky. James Dunn, grandfather of Mrs. Frye, was listed as 48 years of age, farmer, property valued at \$7,200; married to Sallie, with the following children: John, Shibel (Sibyl), Augustine 12, Joshua 8, Mary 5, and Sally Ann 1 (page 213 of 1850 census). Joshua Dunn was 52, farmer, property worth \$17,600, married to Sarah, age 45; with children named Benjamin 25, William 23, Jesse 21, Charles 19, Joshua 17, Sarah 11, Elizabeth 14, Wilson 9, and Eliza 5 (Ibid., p. 221). Isaac Dunn was 48, farmer, property worth \$10,520, married to Malinda, age 47, children named David 19 and Martha 9 (Ibid., p. 219). If Joshua Dunn, age 52, was born in Kentucky, it is clear that his parents had migrated to the state by 1798. Still other Dunns appearing in the 1850 census were Erasmus, Philip G. Sr., Philip G. Jr., and Gatewood Dunn. These Dunns were not traced in later census records.

The marriage index of Garrard County in Lancaster, Ky. contains the following references to marriage bonds of various Dunn descendants:

John A. (Aldridge) Dunn and Sally Hogan, 1811 (Box 3, Bond 670)  
Joshua Dunn to Sally Swope, 1821 (Box 6, No. 1369)  
Walter Dunn to Nancy Oatman, 1812 (Box 3)  
William Dunn to Miriam Nelson, 1806 (Box 2, No. 422)  
William Dunn and Polly Henderson, 1815 (Box 4, No. 958)  
William Dunn and Verlinder Kemper, 1829 (Box 7, No. 1949)  
Dorcus Dunn and Samuel Gilbert, 1821 (Box 6, No. 1423)  
Elizabeth Dunn and Joseph Hocker, 1810 (1811?), Box 3, No. 618)  
Hariat (sic) Dunn and John Byers, 1810 (Box 3, No. 656)  
Levicy (LuVisey) Dunn and Samuel Hogan, 1814 (Box 4, No. 819)  
Nasha Dunn and James Holley, 1814 (Box 3)  
Polly Dunn and Augustine Jennings, 1800 (?), (Box 1, No. 144)  
Polly Dunn and John Hogan, 1811 (Box 3, No. 712). Second marriage?  
Sally H. Dunn and Silas Myers, 1819 (Box 5, No. 1281)

The following references are to deeds in Lancaster, Ky., in which some of the  
Garrard County Dunns were concerned:

William Dunn of Garrard County, Ky to Henry Gill of Charles County, Md.,  
Sept 3, 1798. (Deed Book A, p. 169)

David Finley & Elizabeth, his wife, to Augustine Dunn, for 87 pounds and 10  
shillings, 24 7/8 acres on road from Danville to mouth of Hickman, Corner Dunn's  
line (Deed Book C, p. 367)

Benjamin Dunn and heirs to widow of Thomas Wilson, deceased, for \$20, 10  
acres on Dicks River, May 2, 1820 (Deed Book G, p. 383).

John A. Dunn, who married Sallie Hogan, with four children, viz: Samuel H.,  
Elizabeth, Eleanor, and Augustine Dunn, "being the tract whereon the said John A.  
Dunn now lives on the waters of Dicks River" Recorded Feb. 21, 1825 (Deed Book J,  
p. 211).

Other deeds pertain to James, Joshua, Augustine, and Mary Ann Dunn, wife of  
John Dunn.

Monument Inscriptions in Lancaster Cemetery.— Erasmus Dunn, Sr., Dec. 27,  
1785—Sept. 9, 1862; Eliza Dunn, Jan. 17, 1803—July 20, 1889; Wm. G. Dunn, Nov. 21,  
1825—June 24, 1862; large monument to John Dunn, Oct. 16, 1928—Nov. 1, 1896; and  
to Ruth Ann Dunn, April 17, 1831—Feb. 22, 1904; erected by Erasmus Dunn, Jr.  
(These were all of the Augustine Dunn line.)

The wills of several other Dunns are also found in Lancaster, Ky., as follows:

Will of Augustine Dunn, Jan. 20, 1835; codicil of Sept. 26, 1836; probated  
Feb. 1837.

Will of John Dunn, July 11, 1846, probated September, 1857, reads in part:  
"I John Dunn, to nephew William, son of my brother, Walter Dunn; to  
nephew, Silas Dunn, son of my brother, Walter Dunn . . . and to James,  
William, John, Ruth Ann, and Erasmus Dunn, children of my brother  
Erasmus Dunn; to nephew, Walter Jennings, \$100 each . . . My brother,  
Erasmus Dunn, my executor (Will Book L, p. 416)

The will of a William Dunn was probated in July, 1840 in Garrard County, Ky. (Will Book K, p. 169). He left his property to his children, Walter, John, Erasmus, and Polly Jennings, wife of Augustine Jennings. The will was dated August 25, 1825, and a codicil was made on April 5, 1839. He also left certain property to Elizabeth Dunn, his wife. Reference is made to "my plantation", several negro slaves, and other assets.

Most of the later references to marriage records, deeds, and wills were furnished to the author by Mrs. Frye, and are given here as possible sources for further research on Dunn descendants.

The Odyssey and Fate of the Richard Shekell Will.— So many references have been made in previous pages to the copy of the Richard Shekell will of 1769, which is such a vital link in identifying the Kentucky Dunns with Maryland, that its ultimate history and fate should be told. Mrs. Margaret Dunn Frye tells how the old copy came to light, in a letter dated September 6, 1953. She wrote as follows:

In going over some old papers in the possession of my Father's youngest sister, Mrs. Richard A. McGrath, Sr. (Nackie Dunn McGrath) at Lancaster, Ky. some years ago, we found a folded paper on the back of which appeared, in the same handwriting as the will itself, the following notation: "A copy of Rich. Will." On opening it, we found it to be the will of Richard Sheckell (sic). The paper was folded such as one finds the old marriage bonds., etc., in the old courthouse file boxes, was of old paper, and we have every reason to believe it to have been brought to Garrard County, Kentucky, when the Dunn family or families came around 1798.

My aunt and uncle (Father's brother and sister) had no idea of the connection between the Dunns and the Sheckells, but I have found in recent years the Garrard County records which prove William Dunn to have had a wife, Mary, and I now believe she could have been the daughter of Richard Sheckell, and Ruth, else WHY would the Dunns have brought that bit of paper all the way from Maryland when transportation of necessities and valuables was almost a burden?

The old box in which we found it also contained the Maryland commission of Osburn Dunn as a lieutenant in the Maryland militia, a bill of sale for slaves (no State or County shown), the copy of the will of Augustine Dunn, copies of the will of the Pattons, who were my Grandmother Dunn's people, etc. My aunt told me that the box, which was about the size of a lap desk, and may have been one originally, was the box in which Augustine Dunn carried gold from Maryland with which to buy his land.

Later research in Maryland marriage and birth records has proven that Mrs. Frye's assumption, as well as that of the author, that Mary Dunn was originally Mary Shekell, the daughter of Richard Shekell, was erroneous, since that Mary was

too young to have been the mother of the oldest of William Dunn's children. (See supra, page 3.) In all other respects, her story is correct. Mrs. Frye also relates that the old documents came into the possession of her grandfather, James Dunn, when he inherited the original home of his father, Augustine Dunn, near Bryantsville, Ky.

A few months before Camp Dick Robinson was set up by the Union Army, the old house burned down, but the family papers and the old box were saved, and were kept in the new house until about 1915. At that time Mrs. Nackie Dunn McGrath, youngest child of James Dunn, disposed of the Augustine Dunn homestead. Some years later, at the final disposition of Mrs. McGrath's effects, the commission of Osburn Dunn was given to Mrs. Frye, niece of Mrs. McGrath, who has preserved the old document, with its beautiful oldfashioned script, in a glass case in her home at Somerset, Kentucky.

Mrs. Frye did not receive any of the other documents in the old box or the box itself. These went to Mrs. Katie McGrath Adams, who later went to live with her daughter, Mrs. John A. Dotson, in Athens, Georgia, and died there.

In 1955 the author requested Mrs. Frye to obtain for him a photograph of the copy of the will which was in the old box. Mrs. Frye relayed this request to Mrs. Dotson in Athens, Georgia, and on December 5, 1955 received the following reply indicating that the will had disappeared from the box:

My dear Margaret: I have been waiting to see if I had any luck with the Richard Sheckell will. It seems that it is lost to us. It always stayed in box the Dunns brought from Maryland to Kentucky. Also in the box was our great-grandfather Dunn's will and John Patton's will (copies of them). When I first thought about Mammie giving the will away, I thought of Uncle Dick, but before I heard from Uncle Dick, I remembered it was Lynn Hudson. One day he was here, and Mammie had the box down showing him the old wills. I heard him say, "I would love to have that old will." I was in another room and did not see her give it to him, but I am sure she must have. I wrote him, but he says he does not remember anything about it. You see, I am dealing with a very old man who has been very ill. He may not remember. Since he was here, he has lost his wife and has broken up housekeeping. I am a little suspicious that he wanted to show the will to the Moores or Henry Knight. He may have given it to one of them. . . I surely am sorry. I don't understand why Mammie would give it to him. As she got older, she gave away

several things I wanted. Lynn Hudson was Bank Hudson's brother, and lived in Atlanta. Lynn was crazy about the Moores and Henry Knight in Kentucky. The other two wills are still in the old box. Mattie (Mrs. Mattie Adams Dotson, wife of Dr. John A. Dotson, University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia.)

Mrs. Dotson also wrote the author about the old box and its contents in a letter of February 24, 1960:

. . . As for the box that was brought from Maryland to Kentucky, it is a very crude home-made article about 4 by 3 1/2 by 10 inches. At one time there were three wills in it. Now there are two. One was the will of Richard Sheckell of Anne Arundel County, Md., one of John Patton of Clark County, Ky., and one of Augustine Dunn of Garrard County, Ky. I am not sure what happened to the Sheckell will, but I believe my mother gave it away. For years they were always kept in this box. The only other papers are a few receipts of my great-grandfather James Dunn, and one receipt of a note paid by Augustine Dunn on May 12, 1819. There were other receipts at one time. It may be that my mother gave them to her brother. At one time I had the original book in which James Dunn kept the birth dates of his children. This I gave to mother's brother in Richmond, Va. I have a photocopy of the pages in this book . . . I have a five dollar gold piece that James Dunn gave Sally Ann Patton Dunn, (his wife) when her first child was born . . . 1811. Sincerely, Mattie A. Dotson

The foregoing is a typical example of how family records are lost when homes are broken up. Perhaps the copy of the old will can still be located. Just why the Augustine Dunn branch were the ones to preserve the Shekell will and Osburn Dunn commission is not known, but fortunately they were historically-minded enough to do so. The Benjamin Dunn branch apparently were not interested in them, or if they were, had to defer to the older brother's (Augustine's) prior right to keep them.

### CHAPTER III

#### GEORGE DUNN, ANCESTOR NO. 3

Birth and Marriages of George Dunn.— George Dunn, the sixth of Benjamin and Margaret Hocker Dunn's ten children, was born on June 30, 1804, in Garrard County, Ky., and died on February 6, 1890, in Marion County, Ky., at the age of 86. He was brought up on his father's farm near Bryantsville, but lived most of his adult life on his own farm, near Bradfordsville, Marion County (organized out of Washington County in 1832). On December 9, 1828 he was married to Dicy (Dicey, Dica) Scanland, daughter of John and Margaret (Peggy) McMurry Scanland. Dicy Scanland Dunn was born on February 7, 1810, and died on May 8, 1864. Twelve children were born of this union.

The marriage license of George Dunn and Dicy Scanland is on file in the Washington County Court House, Springfield, Ky., and may be found in a small volume bound in red leather, labeled "Marriage Licenses, 1826-1838." The text of this license reads:

Know all men by these presents: That we - George Dunn and Micajah Wilson - are held & firmly bound unto the Commonwealth of Kentucky in the just & full sum of Fifty Pounds; which payment well and truly to be made, we bind ourselves, our heirs, &c, jointly and severally & firmly by these presents, signed with our hands and sealed with our seals, and dated this 8th day of December 1828.

Whereas there is a marriage shortly intended between the above bound George Dunn and - Miss Dicy Scantland (sic) - daughter of John Scantland Senr. for which a license has this day been issued, now the condition of the above obligation is that if there should be no legal cause to obstruct said marriage, then the above obligation to be void, otherwise to remain in full force & virtue in law.

George Dunn (seal)  
Micajah Wilson (seal)

The marriage took place on the following day, December 9, 1828.

After the premature death of Dicy Dunn in 1864, George Dunn was married in the following year to a widow, Mrs. Ellen (Lou Ellen?) Wright, of Taylor County, Kentucky. She was born in 1816, and died on February 3, 1890, only three days before her husband passed away.

George Dunn Moves to Marion County. - In or about 1834 George Dunn and family moved from Garrard County to the newly created Marion County, and settled on a farm about four miles from the present town of Bradfordsville. The reason for this move may be inferred from the fact that Dicy Dunn's grandfather, John McMurry, died in 1832 (his will was probated on December 23, 1832), and Dicy may have wished to be near her own relatives. John McMurry was a prominent Kentucky pioneer, and gave his name to the section in which he preempted land and settled in 1780, known as "McMurry's Flat."<sup>1</sup> In later years it was also called "Rush Branch Community." There is no record of Dicy Dunn's having inherited any land from her grandfather upon his death, but her husband may have been able to buy property advantageously in that vicinity.<sup>2</sup>

The year in which George Dunn removed to Marion County has been placed in 1834, based on the fact that in that year he sold land in Garrard County, retaining a ~~mortgage~~ for the unpaid balance (Deed Book L, p. 282, County Clerk's Office, Lancaster, Ky.) It is possible that he made the move before 1834, but it was certainly between 1832, when his wife's grandfather died, and 1834 when he sold his land in Garrard County. George Dunn was apparently the first of the William Dunn descendants to break away from the Bryantsville section where his father, Benjamin, and brothers had settled about 1798.

No deeds covering George Dunn's purchase of land in Marion County are available, either because they were not recorded or because they were destroyed by fire during the Civil War. A search in the Court House at Lebanon, present county seat of Marion County, and in Springfield, county seat of Washington County, failed to disclose any such documents. At any rate, the George Dunn family lived for nearly half a century in the McMurry Flat section where they played a prominent part in the civic and religious life of that community.

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<sup>1</sup>See Jillson, History of Kentucky, for references to John McMurry.

<sup>2</sup>John McMurry's will is found in Will Book E, p. 165, Washington County Court House, Springfield, Ky.

George Dunn and Family as Revealed by U. S. Census Records.— George Dunn first appears as head of family in the 1830 census of Garrard County, with his wife in the 20-30 years age group, and one son under 5. (It will be remembered that only heads of families were specifically named in U. S. censuses before 1850.) This checks with his marriage in December, 1828 and the birth of one child by 1830, probably George Fletcher Dunn. George Dunn is again listed in the 1840 census, but this time in Marion County, where he is shown as being in the 30 to 40 age group, his wife also in the same group, with 4 boys (1 under 5, 2 between 5 and 10, and 1 between 10 and 15; 2 girls (1 under 5 and one between 5 and 10); also 4 slaves. Some additional information was introduced into this census, and 5 persons were shown as "working in agriculture," evidently George himself and the four slaves.

In the 1850 census of Marion County still more data are included. George Dunn appears at the age of 46, occupation farmer, property valued at \$8,000; his wife, Dica (sic), age 40; and the following children: Wesley 18, Margaret 16, William 14, Milton 12, Mary E. 10, Susan 7, Ellen 5, and Martha 2. Although the census was dated September 6 and 7, 1850, James McMurry Dunn, born in August of that year, was not listed. All members of the George Dunn family were noted as having been born in Kentucky. George Fletcher Dunn, the first born, had died, at the age of about 18. John Milton Dunn was destined to die in 1852, at the age of 14 or 15. George Alrie and Emma Alice Dunn had not yet been born.

In the 1860 census of Marion County, George Dunn had reached the age of 56; occupation, farmer, born in Kentucky; land valued at \$11,240 and personal estate at \$6760; wife, Dicy, 50; and children as follows: Ellen 15, Martha 12, James 10, George 6, and Emma 4. The full names of these children were Ellen Amanda, Martha Louvisey (Louvicie), James McMurry, George Alrie, and Emma Alice. Two children had died and the others not shown were married and had homes of their own. Ellen, Martha, James, and George were listed as "attending school."

In 1870 the family is listed with appropriate changes. George Dunn appears as of 66 years of age; farmer, with assets of \$8000 for land and \$5834 for personal estate. Dicy had died in 1864, and the new wife appears as "Luella (Lou Ellen), age 54, born in Virginia (sic). The only children at home were George Alrie 16, and Eliza A. 14

(this was probably a mistake for "Emma A." Census enumerators were not too accurate in those days). All the other Dunns shown in the household were colored, former slaves but now free. Perry and Rachel Dunn were noted as "can't read or write," and as having four children. James McMurry Dunn who had been attending school in Stanford, was not shown in Marion County, and had been married in January, 1870. Neither he nor his wife, Lucie Ballinger Dunn, were shown in the 1870 census of Lincoln County, of which Stanford was the county seat.

These census records reflect faithfully the history of the George Dunn family from 1830 to 1870. They show the gradual increase in property and assets up to 1860, through hard work and thrift; then the gradual decline in George's wealth as he helped his children through sickness and other vicissitudes. The whole gamut of a family - births, marriages and deaths, education, emancipation of slaves, and other experiences are revealed in the cold statistics of these records. No later census records will be followed here, for later events will be traced through well-known family data.

Children of George and Dicy Dunn. - A complete list of the George Dunn family was made by James McMurry Dunn, in his own handwriting, about the year 1895 or 1896, when he was Principal of Axtell Institute, in Axtell, Texas. The names of the spouses of each child are shown, but no dates are included. Some of these dates, as far as known, have been inserted. The list follows:

- (1) George Dunn
- (2) Dicy Dunn (née Scanland)
  - (1) George Fletcher Dunn - Born March 21, 1830; died in 1847, in 18th year.
  - (2) Benjamin Wesley Dunn - Married Fannie McKinney. Born Dec. 2, 1831, died Oct. 3, 1871.
  - (3) Margaret Ann Dunn - Married W. T. Phillips.
  - (4) William Franklin Dunn - Married Mary Huffman. Born 1836.
  - (5) John Milton Dunn - (Died at the age of 14 or 15). Born Dec. 21, 1837, died March 8, 1852.
  - (6) Mary Eliza Dunn - Married John Dinwiddie. Born 1839.
  - (7) Susan Elizabeth Dunn - Married Wm. Wilson. Born 1843.
  - (8) Ellen Amanda Dunn - Married James H. Pruitt (James Hardin Pruitt). Born 1845, died Sept. 22, 1902.
  - (9) Martha Louvisey Dunn - Married L. M. Drye (Major Leven M. Drye). Born Nov. 5, 1847.
  - (10) James McMurry Dunn - Married Lucy (Lucie) Ballinger. Born Aug. 25, 1850, died 1928.

J. M. DUNN, A. M., Principal.  
MISS SALLIE LOU TRICE, Primary Dept. (7) yrs. <sup>Primary Dept.</sup>  
MISS JENNIE MUSE, Music Dept.

W. C. MORGAN, President Board of Trustees.  
DR. J. C. CAVENDER, Sec. Board of Trustees.  
R. C. THOMPSON, Treas. Board of Trustees.

# Batell Institute,

Livieis

— A PREPARATORY INSTITUTION FOR BOTH SEXES.

Batell, Texas,

189

George Dunn,

2.) Dicy Dunn (See Scanland)

(1.) George Fletcher Dunn (Died at about 18 years of age)

(2.) Benjamin Wesley " " Married Annie McHenry.

(3.) Margaret Ann " " W. J. Phillips

(4.) William Franklin " " Mary Hoffman

(5.) John Milton " " at age of 14 or 15.

(6.) Mary Slega " Married John Duviddie.

(7.) Susan Elizabeth " " Wm Wilson.

(8.) Eliza Amanda " " James M. Pruitt.

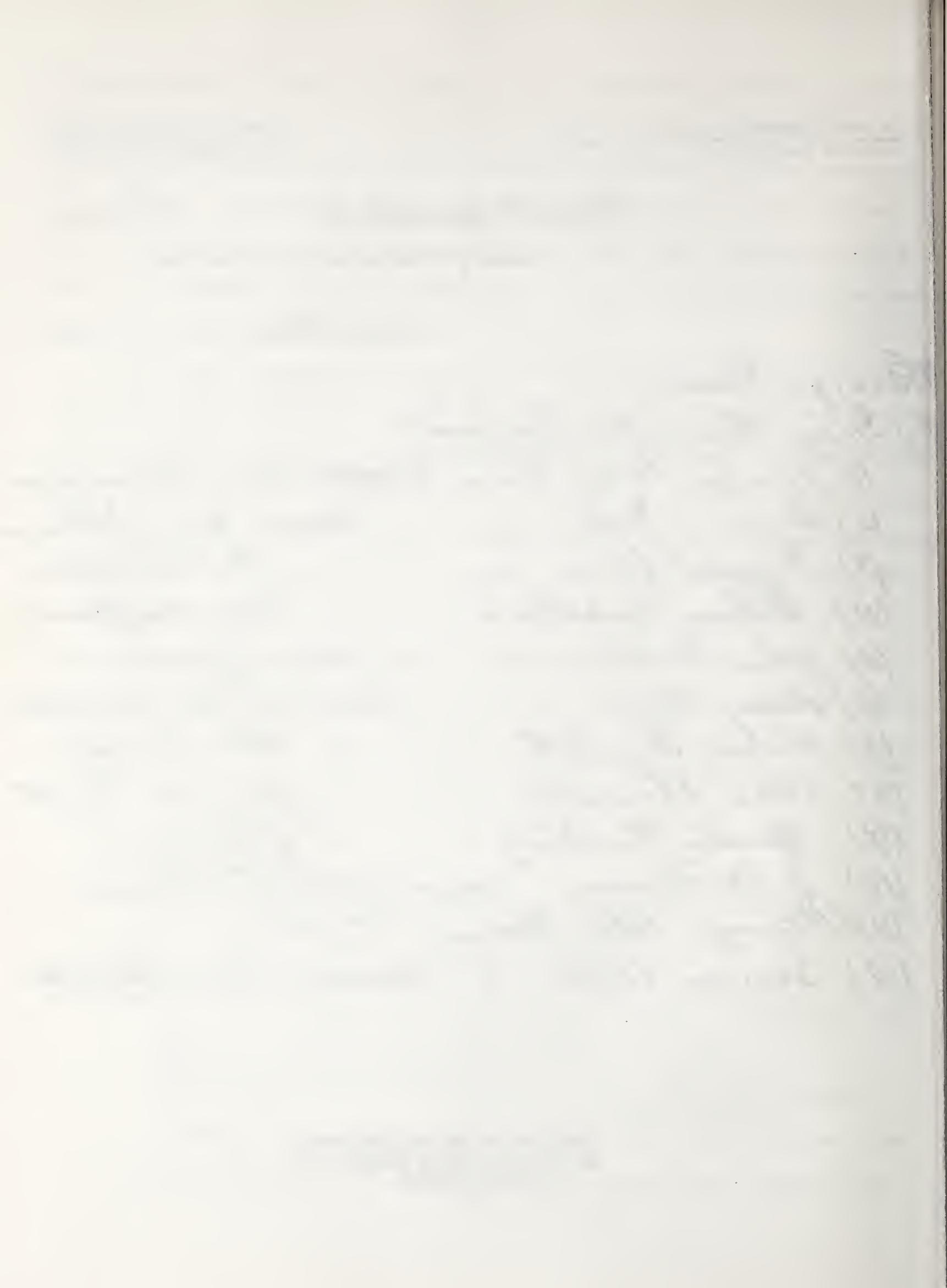
(9.) Martha Louisa " " L. M. Drye

(10.) J. M. Dunn married Lucy Ballinger.

(11.) George Alvin Dunn, <sup>Primary Teacher</sup> <sub>Music Teacher</sub>

(12.) Emma Alice " Married Felix G. Phillips.

Family of George and Dicy Dunn  
As Listed by James McMurry Dunn  
(circa 1895-96)



(11) George Alrie Dunn---(Names of wives not shown: He married twice, Janie Garlin, 1st. and Mattie Williams, 2nd.) Born 1854, d. 1927

(12) Emma Alice Dunn-----Married Felix G. Phillips (no relation to W.T.P.) B. 1856.

The name "Luvicie" appears at the top of the list, and is apparently shown as an alternate spelling of "LouVisey." The name came from the Scanland family. LouVisey Scanland married B. F. Purdy, and was a sister of Dicy Scanland Dunn. The above list was made by James McMurry Dunn from memory, after some 25 years of residence in Texas, and contains some minor errors. It is the only authoritative list available of the large family of George and Dicy Dunn. It is interesting to note how faithfully various given names, such as William, Benjamin, John, James, George, etc., were carried on in later generations. James McMurry Dunn was named after James McMurry, an uncle of Dicy Scanland Dunn and brother of her mother, Margaret (Peggy) McMurry Scanland, wife of John Scanland. The name of James McMurry appears in the 1840 U.S. census for Marion County, Kentucky.

Description of George Dunn and His Home.— Little information regarding George Dunn, No. 3, was handed down in the James McMurry Dunn family. His name was known to most of the surviving children during their lifetimes, but none of them knew him personally, as they were all born in Texas, with one exception, and did not visit Kentucky before he died. Annie, the oldest child, was the only one who could have seen him, and she was a babe in arms when her parents migrated to Texas in 1871.

Some impressions of George Dunn have been garnered, however, from various sources, including recollections of living relatives in Kentucky who remember him, several contemporaneous obituaries relating to him and his second wife, Ellen; and a fragment of an autograph letter written by him to his son James McMurry Dunn, about the year 1872, when the latter had married and moved to Texas. One small photograph of George Dunn is also available, taken in Danville, Kentucky, a few years before his death. This photograph, which is about 2 1/2 by 4 inches, somewhat dim and discolored, was taken in the studio of G. W. Finley, "Successor to D. H. Anderson, Corner Third & Main Sts." in Danville. "Grandfather George Dunn" also appears on the back.

This photograph, which has been preserved in the James McMurry Dunn family and was probably labeled by Georgie McMurry Dunn Smith (deceased), was sent to Mr. Meredith M. Pruitt, a son of Mrs. Ellen Amanda Dunn Pruitt and grandson of George Dunn, for identification purposes. Mr. Pruitt lived in Millersburg, Ky., up to the time of his recent death (March 14, 1960). He replied as follows on October 25, 1954.

"Yes, this is Grandpa Dunn--I remember. It was taken late in life. He had become emaciated. He had it taken in Danville, on a visit to Garrard Co. to see his kin--Hogans, Robinsons, Spellmans, etc. Dunns also."

This photograph is reproduced opposite page 53. It shows a man dressed in the typical style of the times, but in a suit much too large for him because he had lost weight; a kindly, patient face, slight mustache but no beard, hair worn long and still abundant. He was photographed without his glasses, but the chain shown was probably attached to them, or perhaps a watch.

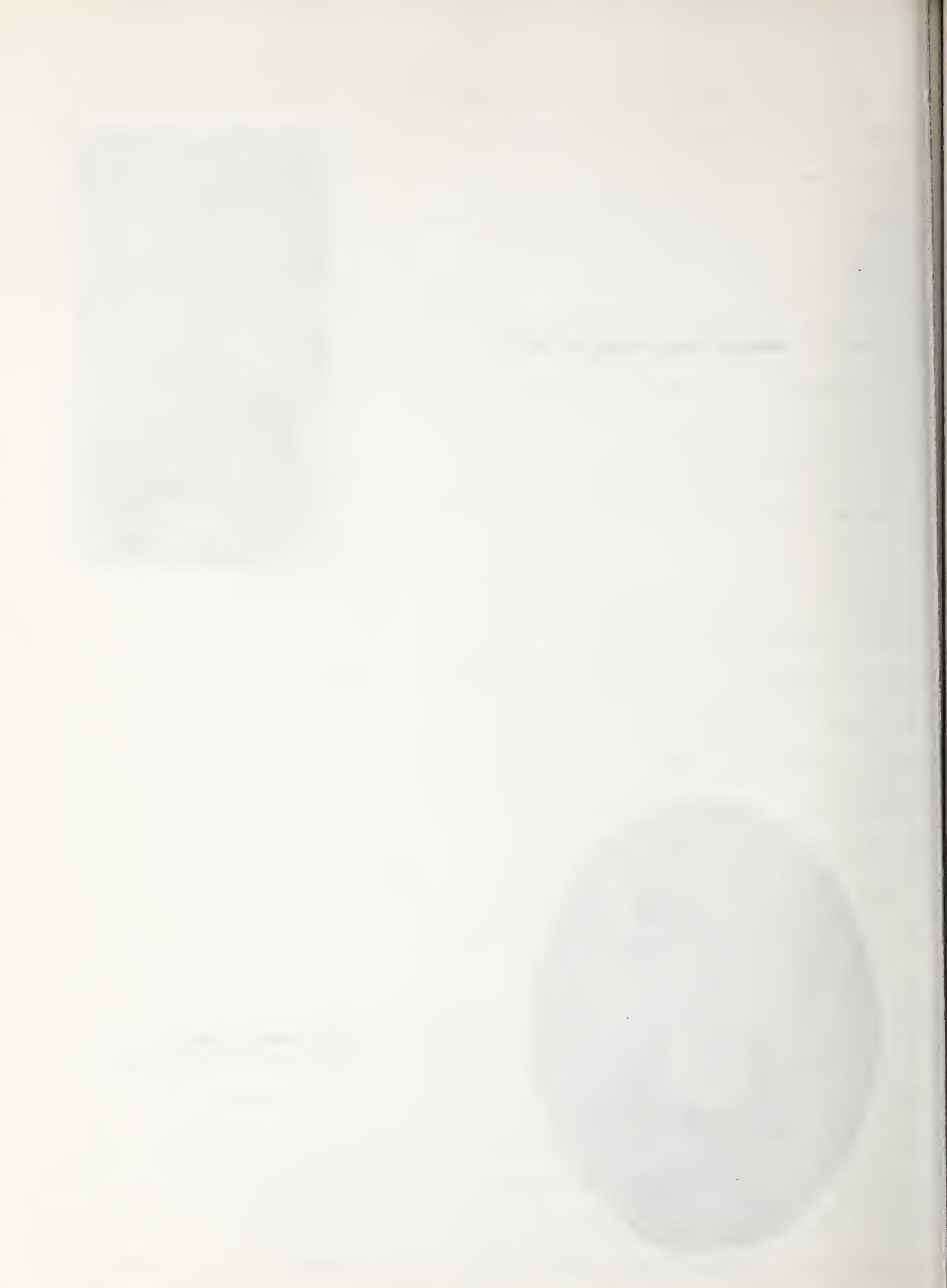
Mr. Pruitt said he remembered his Grandfather Dunn fairly well. He told the author of his visits to the old Dunn farm as a boy, and said that he always enjoyed going there--it almost seemed like heaven to him. There was a large two-story house, an "enormous" dining room, four or five bedrooms, two large fireplaces, a big kitchen with a dumb waiter or opening through which to slide the food, and wonderful banisters for the children to slide down on; there were separate slave quarters, and a large cistern with a "sweep" for drawing up the water. The floors were fully carpeted and the entire house was amply furnished. Mr. Pruitt said he recalled seeing as many as 75 people to midday dinner there. These must have been large church picnics or barbecues.

Mr. Pruitt described his grandfather as being short of stature, about 5 feet and 5 inches tall, rather heavy with a prominent stomach, and a good trencherman. George Dunn was a very religious and devout Methodist. Old Liberty Church, which he helped finance and build, is still standing near Bradfordsville. He had his own special easy chair in his later years, and Mr. Pruitt remembered that his step-grandmother Ellen would often assist his grandfather to rise, saying "Let me help you, Mr. Dunn." Wives in those days usually addressed their husbands in this formal fashion. George Dunn

George Dunn, Ancestor No. 3



Mrs. George Dunn  
(2nd wife of George Dunn)



was not a strict disciplinarian, but Mr. Pruitt remembered being scolded by him when banister-sliding became too frenzied.

Perry Dunn, the ex-slave, was the man of all work and his wife Rachel, a very fat woman, was the cook. Charles Dunn, a son of Perry, was still living on a small 2 1/2 acres tract deeded to his father by George Dunn in 1885, when the author visited the old Dunn place in 1953 near Bradfordsville. The original house had burned down many years before, and had been replaced by a new structure. The foundations of the slave quarters were still plainly visible, as well as the site of the two large fireplaces and chimneys. The area of the Dunn farm is not known. It must have consisted of several hundred acres. In March, 1866 George Dunn sold off 177 1/2 acres on the waters of Old Lick for a consideration of \$6,210, adjoining his own homestead on the West and land of George Newbold on the East. This land was described as "containing 103 1/2 acres in the home tract and 74 acres of timbered or knob land." A first lien was retained on the land until it was all paid for. (Deed Book 2, page 239, Court House, Lebanon, Ky.)

Tobacco was a prime crop on the Dunn farm, and all necessary foodstuffs were grown. A Mr. Kemp bought the place at public auction in 1891 after the death of George Dunn. In 1953 it was owned by a family named Tucker. Official documents covering these later transactions have not been located, but probably exist in the Lebanon Court House records.

A Holograph of George Dunn.— Some of the kindly, generous, humorous, and pious traits of George Dunn are revealed in the only known holograph letter of his still in existence, consisting of the lower halves of two sheets written to his son, James McMurry Dunn, in 1871 or 1872. This fragmentary letter was found in the Bible of Mrs. Annie Dunn Sherwood, eldest child of James McMurry Dunn and granddaughter of George Dunn, and was sent to the author by her husband, Mr. Marvin B. Sherwood, after her death in December, 1955. How the letter happened to be mutilated, with the upper halves of the sheets missing, cannot now be explained. The writing is still quite legible although somewhat faded. The remaining portions of the letter read as follows:

... "hundred dollars, and it took nearly all I could raise. I have no money on hand. I have paid for Willie and Wesley between four and five thousand dollars and sent you five hundred and paid so much for that tan suit it has almost dreaned (sic) me but if you cant get along I will try to get to-get (sic) that much as soon as I can and send it to you. Mack you must try to learn to manage better for the future" . . . (page ends here)

... "time. Henry is dead he died here three weeks ago he had consumption Emma is at Stanford She is coming home next week I saw Lou today at church they are all well

Give my love to Lucy and Annie and a Share for yourself

I remain as ever your  
loving Father

George Dunn

Write soon and let us know how you are getting along How is John F. Purdy & family getting along how are they posted?

(On reverse side of second half-page: . . . "to remember you at a throne of grace that if we never meet each other here we may meet in that sun bright clime where parting will be no more forever farewell G D "

The date of this letter can be fixed approximately by the reference to "Lucy and Annie." Apparently Annie was the only child then in the J. M. Dunn family, which had moved to Texas. She was born November 24, 1870, and Mack and Lucie Dunn had gone to Texas in 1871. If another child had been born to them, George Dunn evidently did not know about it. J. M. Dunn was then working in Honey Grove, Texas, was apparently hard up financially, and had written to his Father for assistance. There are indications that George Dunn sent him \$500 in response to his plea, but at a later date. "Willie" was William Franklin Dunn and "Wesley" was Benjamin Wesley Dunn, both of whom were victims of long illnesses and had died comparatively young. (B. W. Dunn died on October 3, 1871.) George Dunn had obviously very generously helped the families of his two sons in their need, thereby depleting his own cash resources. The land he sold in 1866 may have been sold to raise funds for these emergencies.

If "Henry" could be identified and the date of his death determined, the date of this letter could be fixed with exactitude, but this information is now lacking. "Emma" and "Lou" were daughters - Mrs. Martha LouVisey Dunn Drye and Emma Alice, who was then 15 or 16 years old and probably in school at Stanford.

John F. Purdy and family, whose address George Dunn wished to know ("how is he posted?"), must also have been living in Texas. He may have been a brother of B. F. Purdy, who had married LouVisey Scanland, sister of George Dunn's first wife, Dicy Scanland. The joke about the tan suit must refer to one that J. M. Dunn had bought. The language on the reverse side of the page reflects the devoutness of the writer, and may indicate that he did not expect to survive long enough to see his son in distant Texas again. He was about 68 years old when the letter was written, and may not have expected to live to the ripe old age of 86.

The handwriting of this letter differs considerably from that shown on the receipt given by George Dunn on February 16, 1852 when he received \$654 as his "distributable share" of the estate of his deceased father, Benjamin Dunn. However, this receipt may have been written by the executor, G. E. Hackley, and only signed by George Dunn. Furthermore one's handwriting may materially change in twenty years' time. George Dunn evidently did not bother about punctuation or capital letters, as one would expect from a practical farmer. This might indicate that his own education was not too advanced, but in any case he saw to it that his children received good educations in the best schools available at that time, especially the sons. Such are the many traits revealed in this fragmentary letter which has miraculously been preserved in the J. M. Dunn family.

George Dunn Makes His Will.— George Dunn is said to have been troubled by both gout and some asthmatic ailment (usually known as catarrh) in his later life. His only known will was made in 1878, when he was beginning to suffer the infirmities of advancing age. This document is preserved in the Court House at Lebanon, Ky., and did not suffer the fate of earlier documents pertaining to him. The text of this will, which is given below, again reveals the generosity and fairness of this ancestor, as well as the Dunn tradition of giving away most of their resources to their children while still living, as was seen in the cases of William and Benjamin Dunn:

Will of George Dunn, Marion County, Ky.

I George Dunn of Marion County Ky make this my last will and testament and hereby revoke all other wills heretofore made by me

Item In case my wife survives me I will to her what the law gives her.

2. After payment of my debts and the above bequest to my wife, I devise the residue of my estate to be equally divided among all my children. But in ascertaining their respective portions they are to be severally charged with all the advancements I have made or may hereafter make to them and in case any of my children die having a child or children such child or children are to take the portion that the parent would take under this will if alive.

3. I have already made the following advancements to my children for which they must account in the division of my estate. Namely I have given to J MC Dunn one thousand and sixty doll (sic) also five hundred To Mag Phillips Eight hundred and forty five dollar (s) Susan Wilson one thousand dollars To Mary E. Dinwiddie one thousand and I lent to her husband the sum of money which he has failed to pay Twenty eight hundred and thirty nine dollars and I charge said Mary with it as an advancement To Ellen Prewett (sic) I have given one thousand dollars To Lu Dry one thousand dollars To B. W. Dunn Twenty two hundred dollars To William F. ~~Wilson~~ (sic) Dunn who is dead and his children are to take his place in this will I have given thirty five hundred and seventy two dollars To George A Dunn I have given two hundred dollars. I do not expect my estate will be sufficient to make the several devises equal as the advancements to some have been too large but these advancements are stated and charged in this will to show what each ought to have this the 7th Sept 1878

George Dunn

Witness

W. F. Gilpin  
Thomas Thornton

I George Dunn hereby make the following codicil to the foregoing will I appoint L M Drye and my son Alrie Dunn executors of said will this the 23rd of April 1881

George Dunn<sup>1</sup>

W. F. Hocker

The total amount of these "advancements" reached the sum of \$15,216. James McMurry Dunn in faraway Texas had received \$1,560, the final \$500 being the amount which he had asked for, as mentioned in the holograph letter of 1871 or 1872. It may be significant that George and Ellen Dunn lived the last years of their lives with the son-in-law to whom he had advanced \$2,839, still unpaid in 1878. Benjamin

<sup>1</sup>This abstract of the original will of George Dunn was copied by the author from the official records in the County Court House, Lebanon, Marion County, Ky. on May 18, 1953. It is recorded in Will Book No. 1, page 475.

Wesley Dunn had been dead for seven years when this will was signed, but no mention was made of his children as in the case of William F. Dunn.

Like many other men, George Dunn may have misjudged his span of life, and gave away money to his children that would have made him independent in his old age. It was not until 1890 that he finally passed away, and this will was filed for probate, as follows:

State of Kentucky) Sct  
Marion County )

At a County Court held in and for said County on the 7th day of April 1890 the foregoing paper purporting to be the last will and testament of George Dunn, deceased, was produced in open court and proven by the oaths of W. F. Gilpin and Thomas Thornton, the two attesting witnesses thereto and ordered to record as the last will and testament of George Dunn deceased.

Whereupon I have recorded it and this certificate this April 7 1890.

Wm. Severance Clerk

(Will Book No. 1, page 475, Lebanon, Ky.)

George Dunn had died on February 6 of this same year, 1890. By a strange coincidence his wife, Ellen, had preceded him into the valley of the great unknown three days earlier. Thus she could never claim her share of his estate, as stipulated in the will. It will be interesting to note an appraisal of George Dunn's assets, other than his land, which was sold at public auction some time later. This appraisal was made in June, 1890, and showed that his assets consisted mostly of promissory notes, some of which were admittedly unrecoverable. This "appraisement" is recorded in Inventory and Appraisement Book No. 4, page 488, No. 707, in Lebanon, Marion County, Ky., and is as follows:

The appraisement (sic) bill of George Dunn Senr. Deceased. Thomas Thornton, Wilber Hocker and A. B. Coppage acting this May 13th 1890

One Note on G. D. Gastin	Int. from 19" Oct. 1889	34.20
" " " W. R. Godby		25.20
" " " L. M. Drye		76.60
" " " Perry Dunn	doubtful	58.50
" " " G. W. King		14.60
" " " S. B. Evans		18.15
" " " G. P. Newbolt		14.00
" " " Frank Gribbins		21.50
" " " W. S. Purdy		39.25
" " " J. P. Fidler		18.75
" " " James H. Pruett		23.20
" " " Wm. Lewis Spurling		15.50
" " " Henry Miller		27.90
" " " Perry Dunn (col)	doubtful Dec. 11, 1888	12.00
" " " Thomas Gribbins Jr.	Doubtful Feb. 28, 1878	17.50
" " " A. B. Coppage		22.86
" " " H. Purdy		36.75

One mare in foal	80.00
One buggy and harness	10.00

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One note on Thos C. Malone Jan. 6, 1858	(doubtful)	12.53
" " " J. F. Avritt June 22, 1879		172.05
" " " George A. Gribbins March 10, 1876		80.00
" " " W. B. Wray and wife as surety on the J.F. Avritt		note 300.00 (?)
" " " I. J. Mills May 8, 1857		135.00

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Credit on Avritt note Mch 22, '81	\$92.00	A. B. Coppage
" " Gribbins note Aug, 28, 76	52.50	Thomas Thornton
" " Mills note Oct. 30, 1858	75.00	W. F. Hocker

State of Kentucky ) Sct:  
County of Marion )

At a County Court held in aforesaid County on the 2nd day of June, 1890, the foregoing appraisement was ordered to record, the same having been continued for exceptions & none filed thereto whereupon I have recorded it and this certificate. This June 10th 1892 (obviously a mistake for 1890)

Wm. Severance Clerk  
By W. L. Cardwell, D. C.

Judging from this list of old defaulted notes, George Dunn must have been a very generous person. He evidently found it difficult to refuse loans to his relatives and friends, as well as to his ex-slave, Perry Dunn, from whom he probably never expected repayment. His Purdy "in-laws" appear twice in the list. The Henry Miller may be the "Henry" referred to as having died in the holograph shown above. How many of these note

were collected is not known. The farm land was evidently not included, as it was sold at public auction to a Mr. Kemp. As stated before, no further documents were found at Lebanon.

James McMurry Dunn did not return from Texas to Kentucky to claim his share of his father's estate. The will showed that he had already received \$1560 in cash before 1878. There were many arguments and much speculation in his family as to why he had not claimed a further share, but he never explained his failure to do so. Unless and until it is known what amount was realized from the public auction of the land, no one can tell whether James Mc Dunn made a self-sacrificing gesture for the benefit of his brothers and sisters, or whether he felt that he had already received his just share of the estate.

Obituaries of George Dunn and Ellen Dunn.— As previously stated, George and Ellen Dunn made their home, during their declining years, with his daughter, Mrs. Mary Eliza Dunn Dinwiddie, wife of John Dinwiddie, whose old home still stands on Highway 78 near Hustonville, Kentucky. How long they had lived with the Dinwiddies is not clear. Here they both died, however, in February, 1890, within three days of each other's demise. The story of their passing can best be told from the contemporaneous obituaries which were published in the local newspapers in Stanford and Bradfordsville. The Stanford paper was the famous "Interior Journal," the leading pioneer journal of that section, which is still published today. The name of the other newspaper is not shown in the clippings that have been preserved in the J. M. Dunn family. These obituaries, which are reproduced below, reflect the great esteem and respect which the local communities felt for these worthy ancestors:

NEWS FROM THE COUNTY

— — —

Rush Branch

Uncle George Dunn breathed his last on February 6 at his son-in-law's, John Dinwiddie, in Lincoln County, at the age of eighty-six years. His second

and last companion only preceded him to the spirit land three days. Deceased was born and raised in Garrard County until about the date of 1833. He came to this county and was united in marriage to Miss D'ca Scondland, daughter of John Scondland, one of the leading families of the county. Eleven (sic) children were born to them, and of this number eight are still living. In 1864 his first companion died, and in 1855 (sic) he was married to Mrs. Ellen Wright, of Taylor county, which proved to be a happy union to the day of their death. Deceased was a noble specimen of Adam's race. I hesitate not to say he was a model man, commanding the respect of all who knew him, possessing "a meek and quiet spirit, which is, in the sight of God, of great price." It was characteristic of the man. When he could not speak well of a man he would hold his peace.

For many years he owned a farm two miles east of Bradfordsville, and was a thrifty farmer in a section known as the "McMurry Flat." As regards his religious life, few men, I presume, walked the "straight and narrow way" more closely than he. For many years he was a leading member of the Methodist church, contributing freely of his means to advance the cause he loved. But uncle George is no more on earth. He's "ceased from his labors and his works will follow him." He formed a character, and left a record that his posterity may well be proud of.

For three years previous to his death his mind was much impaired at times, not knowing his own children. But on being informed that his companion had passed into the "unseen" his mind seemed to brighten, and to some extent he realized the situation, as he spoke of her interment. Funeral services at the Methodist church, Bradfordsville, conducted by Elder Lacy, attended by a large concourse of relatives and friends. Interment at Old Liberty. Mrs. John Dinwiddie and Mrs. James Pruitt, his two daughters, of Lincoln county, attended the funeral.

CITIZEN.

The above clipping bears no date and the name of the newspaper is not shown. It was probably from a Bradfordsville or Lebanon paper. The Rush Branch correspondent, "Citizen," who wrote the account of George Dunn's death, made several obvious errors, such as the number of children - 11 instead of 12, the year of his marriage to Mrs. Ellen Wright (clearly a typographical error); the spelling of the name "Scondland," etc. On the whole, this obituary gives a fairly accurate picture of the life and character of George Dunn. Another obituary, also without date or the name of the newspaper, was as follows:

Died, at the residence of his son-in-law, Mr. John Dinwiddie, in Lincoln county, on Thursday, February 6, 1890, Mr. Geo. Dunn, Sr., in the 86th year of his age. Mr. Dunn was one of the early settlers of this portion of the State, having been a resident of this vicinity for more than fifty years. No death has occurred in this community that has caused more universal sorrow than the death of this aged and honored man. He joined the Methodist church in 1840, of which he was a consistent member at the time of his death. He was a man of generous impulses and great kindness of heart; he was liberal-minded and warm in his sympathies and friendship. He always joined kindness to a firm conviction of duty. He was circumspect in his walk, Godly in his conversation, and leaves behind him a record spotless and unblemished. He gave of his substance

freely to all charitable objects; modest, retiring and pure; he was a faithful husband, a devoted father and a true friend, and his virtues will live in the hearts of his friends. He leaves six daughters and two sons to mourn his loss, and to appreciate the noble example set by a Christian father. The writer hopes that this bitter cup may have its sweet, that this faded bloom may cast its seed in the hearts of a bereaved family, and spring forth as flowers of love. His funeral was preached at the Methodist church at this place by the pastor, Rev. W. B. Lucy (sic), to a large congregation. His remains were followed to Old Liberty graveyard by a large number of weeping friends and relatives, where they laid to rest.

H.

This clipping was undoubtedly from a Bradfordsville newspaper, since it refers to the "Methodist church at this place." The name of the pastor is given here as "Lucy" instead of "Lacy." The author of the obituary, who signed himself as "H," is unknown.

The obituary of Mrs. Ellen Dunn, who died three days prior to her husband, was also published in this same Bradfordsville newspaper, judging from the type and style. It was also written by "H," and reads as follows:

Died, at the residence of Mr. John Dinwiddie, in Lincoln county, on Monday, February 3, 1890, Mrs. Ellen Dunn, wife of George Dunn, Sr. Mr. and Mrs. Dunn were married some twenty years or more ago, he being a widow (sic) at the time with a number of children, the performance of her duty toward them was attested by the love and affection they ever manifested for her. In every relation of life she was pre-eminently a model woman, and brought to the discharge of every duty a rare intelligence and a conscience enlightened by a close and constant study of the sacred Scriptures. Though modest, gentle and retiring, no one could exceed hers (sic) in the discharge of what she conceived to be her duty. She had been a member of the Methodist church for more than forty years, and her relations to her brethren and sisters was proverbial, and to all works of charity she was a free and cheerful giver. Her offering was always ready and always commensurate with her ability. Though quiet and unassuming, never seeming to make an effort to entertain, she was most delightful company, and was gladly welcomed in every home. The children all loved her, which, to the thoughtful, is one of the highest evidences of innate purity. To her sons and daughters and her granddaughter, whom she raised, her death would seem an everlasting blow; but the writer hopes and believes that they have caught enough of her strong faith and sweet spirit of resignation to soothe their wounded hearts and look beyond the rolling river for compensation.

H.

Still another account of George Dunn's death was found by the author in the files of the semi-weekly Interior Journal of February 11, 1890 (Tuesday) published in Stanford, Lincoln County. This item was couched in the frank and realistic style of the times, and read as follows:

Death's Doings"- Bowed down with grief over the death of his wife, Mr. George Dunn died Thursday at the home of his daughter, Mrs. John Dinwiddie, in the West End, at an advanced age. His wife died Monday, and almost before the clods had closed over her coffin, he had joined her beyond the river. Until recently Mr. Dunn's home was at Bradfordsville, Marion county, where he was a leading member of the Methodist church and held high in the estimation of everybody. He was the father of the late husband of Mrs. Fannie Dunn, of this place, and of six other children, who survive him.

In the same newspaper, under date of Tuesday, February 18, 1890, an item appears from Junction City, Boyle County, Kentucky:

**"The remains of Mr. George Dunn, of whom so many good words have appeared in the Interior Journal, passed through here en route to Bradfordsville for interment. Deceased was the father of our postmaster (George Alrie Dunn), who has much sympathy in his time of sorrow."**

The foregoing two items were copied by the author in the Interior Journal office, Stanford, Kentucky on May 19, 1953. An old colored man by the name of Reed, who said he had been working there for 41 years, assisted in the search for items pertaining to the Dunn family. These were the only items found.

Obituaries of Mrs. Mary E. Dinwiddie, "widow of Mr. John Dinwiddie," and of Mrs. Ellen Amanda Dunn Pruitt, both daughters of George and Dicy Dunn, are in the possession of the author, without the names of the newspaper or dates of publication. They are not given in full, but pertinent extracts follow:

Mrs. Mary E. Dinwiddie Joins the Silent Majority

Mrs. Mary E. Dinwiddie, widow of Mr. John Dinwiddie, died at the home of her son, Col. John B. Dinwiddie Saturday afternoon after an illness of several days of paralysis. She was 81 years old and prior to her marriage was Miss Mary E. Dunn. Her husband died a number of years ago, but the following children are left to mourn the loss of as good a mother as ever lived; Mrs. Lou Carpenter, Miss Minnie Dinwiddie, Mrs. G. E. Mattingly, Messrs. John B., George A., and A. B. C. Dinwiddie. Mr. (sic) J. W. Powell, of the West End, died a number of years ago. . . The pall-bearers were: Messrs. Ben Pruitt, Will Lee Pruitt, Claud Dinwiddie, Givens Smith, Tom Black, and Don V. Drye, the latter of Bradfordsville. . . Besides her children Mrs. Dinwiddie leaves two brothers and a sister; Messrs. Alry Dunn, of Junction City, and Mack Dunn, of Texas, and Mrs. Ellen Pruitt, of Moreland.

As Mary Eliza Dunn Dinwiddie was born in 1839, her death must have occurred in 1920. The term, "West End," is a local expression used in Stanford to denote "Hustonville." "East End," not appearing in these obituaries, refers to "Crab Orchard."

The obituary of Mrs. Ellen Amanda Dunn Pruitt, the youngest child of George and Dicy Dunn, also contains some data of interest. It gives the date of her death as November 7, 1932 in Stanford, and says:

She was a woman of such traits of character as to merit special mention. She was one of a remarkable family of twelve children of George Dunn, who was born and reared near Bryantsville, Garrard county, and moved to Marion county, near Bradfordsville, where he married Miss Dicie Scanland . . . She was the last survivor of her large family, and lived to a greater age than any other of them, eighty-seven years and seven months. She rests from her labors, but her influence will live. W. D. Welburn.

A reprint of this last obituary was given to the author in May, 1953, by Mrs. Edith Welborn Wilson, granddaughter of Mrs. Pruitt, of Bradfordsville. One final extract is of interest:

The subject of this sketch was married at the age of sixteen and a half years to Mr. James Hardin Pruitt, of Marion County, who was a widower with two daughters, one of whom died after his second marriage. Soon after they moved to the west end of Lincoln county (Hustonville) where they established a home, long known for much wholesome, happy, earnest Christian living. One son died in childhood, the others lived to have homes and families of their own: George Booker, of Moreland, Meredith Elkin of Millersburg, and Mrs. Emma Dunn Welborn, of Stanford. . . Since Mr. Pruitt's death, April, 1917, she lived with her daughter, Mrs. W. D. Welburn. . . When asked a few days before her release, how many times she had read it (the Bible) through, she replied, "More than fifty times." She was unselfish to a fault. . . Some fifteen months before the end, she suffered a slight fall, which lamed her, necessitating the use of crutches. In the course of time, one was discarded, and a few weeks before the last, the other was laid aside. . . Just one week before her death she returned from a two hundred mile auto trip.

One final obituary of another of George Dunn's children, Benjamin Wesley Dunn, throws interesting light on the characteristics of the family. This obituary was written by a Mr. Morris Evans and was copied from an unnamed publication of the Methodist Church, perhaps The Advocate. A summary of this article follows:

Benjamin Wesley Dunn was born December 2, 1831 in Garrard County, and died on October 3, 1871 at Stanford, Ky. He was converted in December, 1854, and joined the Methodist Episcopal Church South at Bradfordsville. In 1852 he was a salesman in Lebanon. In 1853 he removed to Hustonville, lived there until 1856, when he removed to Danville, and thence went to Stanford. During these years he was in the mercantile business. In 1863 he was elected sheriff of Lincoln County, but before his term expired, he accepted the position of cashier of the National Bank of Stanford, which he held until two days before his death. He was married to Miss Fannie McKinney on October 24, 1864. She and three small children survive him. A child of religious parentage, he exhibited in an unusual degree the legitimate results of the heritage of faith. He was a regular student

of the Bible--constant in attendance upon the public worship and prayer meetings. He always had family prayers. Seldom has a Church been more or so overwhelmed by a sense of loss as in the case of his death. . .

For more than a year before his death, he was living in the consciousness that his days were numbered, and a disease preying upon him which would certainly terminate his earthly career about the time it did. He told me, after consulting several eminent physicians in Louisville and Cincinnati that they had all agreed in this matter. But it did not change his life. Even when the shadow of death was settling over him so that his physical strength scarcely sufficed to hand up the little one to his arms, yet he baptized a child. He was scarcely able to stand up at the time when I last saw him on the street, yet he was in town trying to attend to business. I remarked that he seemed then rather as a corpse galvanized into activity by a determined will than as an ordinary man. His last goodbye was spoken in a manner that meant more than words.

In a letter written by Wesley Dunn to his wife, dated Cincinnati, July 6, 1871 his fate was foreshadowed. He wrote:

I have consulted Dr. Williams, who gives me no more encouragement than Dr. Yandell. I will return by mail boat to Louisville tonight, and now think of laying over at Louisville to see Dr. Yandell again. If I do, I will not get home till Friday. Will give particulars when I reach home. "All things happen together for good to them that love Him." My regards to all the family and enquiring friends. Yours affectionately, B. W. Dunn

The Envelope was addressed to Mrs. B. W. Dunn, Care National Bank, Stanford, Ky., "via Louisville," and bore a 3 cent stamp. The foregoing obituary and letter are in the possession of Mr. Joe T. Embry, grandson of Wesley Dunn, of Stanford, Kentucky.

These and similar documents made it more easy to understand how sickness and other emergencies placed a financial strain on George Dunn, who was so generous with aid to his children. The estate of B. W. Dunn was modest, being valued at \$4414.66. Among the potential assets was an insurance policy on the life of his younger brother, "Mack" Dunn, left as security for a loan of unknown amount. The latter had probably applied for a loan from the Bank, but Wesley Dunn gave it to him from his own limited funds. "Mack" Dunn had married in January 1870 at the age of 19 and his first child was born in November of that year, shortly before moving to Texas in 1871. The young husband and father undoubtedly needed all the money he could raise to take care of his increasing responsibilities. It was at this time that "Mack" Dunn probably received the sum of \$1060 mentioned in George Dunn's will. It was a closely-knit family whose members helped one another. (The settlement of B. W. Dunn's estate was dated October 20, 1871, and is filed in the County Clerk's records in Stanford, Kentucky.)

All of the foregoing documents and articles reflect most eloquently the character and standing of George Dunn and his children. They show the kind of father he was, and the lasting influence he had on his family. None of them accumulated a great deal of this world's wealth, but they were substantial, thrifty, public-spirited people. They were humble and God-fearing, respected members of their respective communities. It is people like these who have been responsible for America's character and greatness, as well as its leadership in the free world. Their solid virtues are sorely needed in the present perilous period of world history.

George Dunn's Last Resting Place.- George Dunn was buried beside his first wife, Dicy Scanland Dunn, in Old Liberty cemetery, near Bradfordsville. The author visited their graves in 1953 and noted down these inscriptions on their monument:

DUNN

"Dedicated to the Memory of Father and Mother"

George Dunn, b. June 30, 1804; d. Feb. 6, 1890  
Dicy Dunn, b. Feb. 7, 1810; d. May 8, 1864

This is a large monument, about 8 feet high, with an urn on top, and is located on the left-hand side of the cemetery near the public road. Ellen Dunn, the second wife of George Dunn, was buried near Spurlington, Taylor County, where she spent her early life. In another part of Old Liberty cemetery are the graves of two children of George and Dicy Dunn, and the modest stones reflect a strange mistake in identity. One reads, "John F. Dunn, b. March 21, 1830; d. Sept. 8, 1847." The other reads: George M. Dunn, son of Geo. & Dicy Dunn, Dec. 21, 1837-March 8, 1852". The first one is undoubtedly the grave of George Fletcher Dunn, who died at the age of almost 18, and the other is that of John Milton Dunn, who appears in the 1850 census of Marion County, as 12 years of age, and died at the age of 14, which would make the year 1852. This mix-up must have been the fault of the stonecutter when the stones were placed many years after the death of these two sons.

The Scanland-McMurry Lineage. - John Scanland and Margaret (Peggy) McMurry were married on February 27, 1805, and were the parents of Dicy Scanland, first wife of George Dunn and the mother of his twelve children. The children of John and Peggy Scanland, with such given names and dates as are known, were as follows:

1. Eliza, probably born in 1807, died in Texas in 1883. Married Micajah Wilson.
2. Dicy or Dica, Feb. 7, 1810-May 8, 1864. Married George Dunn.
3. Louvisa, June 14, 1815-Aug. 31, 1838, Married Ben F. Purdy in 1835.
4. Amanda, born ?; died March 26, 1851. Married Samuel Hocker Nov. 28, 1838.
5. William Fletcher, born ?; died Feb. 5, 1875 at Chillicothe, Mo. Married Isabel Nantz, Aug. 14, 1840.
6. Susan A., born 1828; died March 8, 1907. Married Rev. Alrie A. Morrison. Feb. 23, 1953. (This was "Aunt Sue" Morrison who lived for many years in Denver, Colo., and died there. The J. M. Dunns visited her several times-WED).
7. John Wesley, born ?; died August 30, 1839, near Bradfordsville, Ky.
8. Brunetta, born ?; died June 18, 1834, near Bradfordsville, Ky.
9.                    (name unknown) infant daughter, died young in Kentucky.
10.                    (name unknown) infant daughter, died young in Kentucky.

By reference to the family of George Dunn, many of these names will be noted as reappearing in his children. The girls were apparently named in most cases after the sisters of Dicy Scanland Dunn, and the boys after her husband, grandfather, and uncles. It seems clear that George Alrie Dunn was named for his father and the husband of Susan Scanland Morrison. Several Scanlands are buried in Old Liberty cemetery near Bradfordsville. The John F. Purdy mentioned in George Dunn's letter to his son "Mack" about 1872, must have been a brother or close relative of the Ben F. Purdy, who married Louvisa Scanland.

The list of the Scanland children shown above was furnished by Mr. William Fletcher Guy McMurry, Director of Admissions, Lindenwood College, St. Charles, Missouri in a memorandum dated December 12, 1959. Mr. McMurry states that Peggy McMurry, mother of Dicy Scanland Dunn, was the daughter of John McMurry, who settled in Kentucky in 1780, having preempted 1,000 acres of land in Washington County, later Marion County, Kentucky, in the section known as "McMurry's Flat." (See page 26) In 1808 (August 13)

John and Elizabeth McMurry deeded to John Scanland, their son-in-law, 136 1/4 acres of land on the waters of the South Fork of the Rolling Fork, "for love and affection" and the sum of one pound sterling, this tract being a part of the 1,000 acres. The McMurry family has been traced back to William McMurry, No. 1, of record in Augusta County, Virginia on November 28, 1751. John McMurry was buried in Old Liberty cemetery on November 7, 1832, aged "80 years and 10 days." Mr. McMurry of St. Charles, Missouri, has also gathered data on the descendants of each of the children of John and Peggy McMurry Scanland, which he expects to publish in the near future.

## CHAPTER IV

### JAMES MCMURRY DUNN, ANCESTOR NO. 4

Early Life.— The tenth child of George and Dicy Dunn's large family of twelve was James McMurry Dunn, named for his maternal great-uncle, James McMurry, brother of Peggy McMurry Scanland and son of John McMurry and Elizabeth McClelland McMurry. He was born on August 25, 1850 on his father's farm near Bradfordsville, Marion County, Kentucky, and died on March 5, 1928 in Houston, Texas. Throughout his early life he was known as "Mack" or "Mac" Dunn, but later signed his name "J. M. Dunn" without the "Mc." His brothers and sisters used to say, "Mack has the brains of the family."

Mack grew up on his father's farm, and had the usual life of a young boy of those days. He learned to smoke and chew tobacco, always had his own pony to ride, and was reputed to have been somewhat "wild" in his early youth. He even liked a little bourbon now and then, and was in every respect a normal, fun-loving young man. He was very versatile as a boy and man. He sang very well and played several musical instruments. In fact, he was once heard to remark that he could play any musical instrument except the violin. He was an excellent recitationist and humorist, and at one time joined a minstrel show in which he performed for a short time as a black-face comedian.

Mack's own mother, Dicy, died in May, 1864, when he was not quite 14 years of age, and he was brought up in his late 'teens by his stepmother, Mrs. Ellen Dunn, of whom he always spoke with respect and affection.

At an early age he showed his natural bent for learning and scholarship, which came easy to him. At about the age of 16 he was sent away to school, attending the famous Stanford Academy for boys located in Stanford, Lincoln County, Kentucky. He became a proficient student in every course he took, especially in mathematics, Latin and Greek, history, grammar, and even French. By the time he

19 he had become a well-rounded classical scholar probably as far advanced as the average university graduate of today. Shortly after his graduation from the Academy, or perhaps even before graduation, his formal schooling was to be interrupted by his early marriage.

At Stanford there was also located a famous school for girls, called Stanford Female Academy. Here he met and wooed a charming young lady from Texas, and the romance speedily blossomed into matrimony. This young lady was Mary Lucretia Ballinger, daughter of John Logan Ballinger and Mary Ann Paxton Ballinger. She did not like her "old-fashioned" name, Lucretia, and insisted that she be called "Lucie," although this name was often spelled "Lucy." Her parents were former Kentuckians, who had lived on a large plantation on the outskirts of Stanford, but had removed to Texas in 1859, when Lucie was nine years old, and settled in the Honey Grove-Paris section of northeast Texas (Fannin and Lamar Counties). Her parents had married in 1836, and Lucie was the youngest of a family of eight children, born April 29, 1850, in Stanford. Her father, John Logan Ballinger, had been a lawyer, judge, and member of the Kentucky legislature from Lincoln County. He was also a member of the Kentucky State Convention of 1849. In 1859, on the eve of the Civil War, he sold out his extensive holdings in and near Stanford, and bought a large farm near Honey Grove, Texas, where he continued to farm and practice law. He remained a staunch Union sympathizer, although several of his sons were in the Confederate army, and he was a slave-owner himself.

Lucie Ballinger's mother was Mary Ann Paxton Ballinger, daughter of William Paxton, of Rockbridge County, Virginia, head of another pioneer family who had settled near Stanford, and a relative of the mother of the famous General Sam Houston, first President of the Republic of Texas. Lucie's grandmother was Jane Logan (Ballinger), daughter of Colonel John Logan, Kentucky's first State Treasurer, and brother of General Benjamin Logan, founder of Logan's Station, which later became the town of Stanford. In 1794 Jane Logan had married the dashing "Devil

"Joe" Ballinger, who got his nickname because he was a terror to the bandits and outlaws who harrassed the frontier settlements along the Old Wilderness Road - notably the infamous Harpe brothers whom he chased and captured in 1797 (See Otto Rothert's "The Outlaws of Cave-In-Rock").

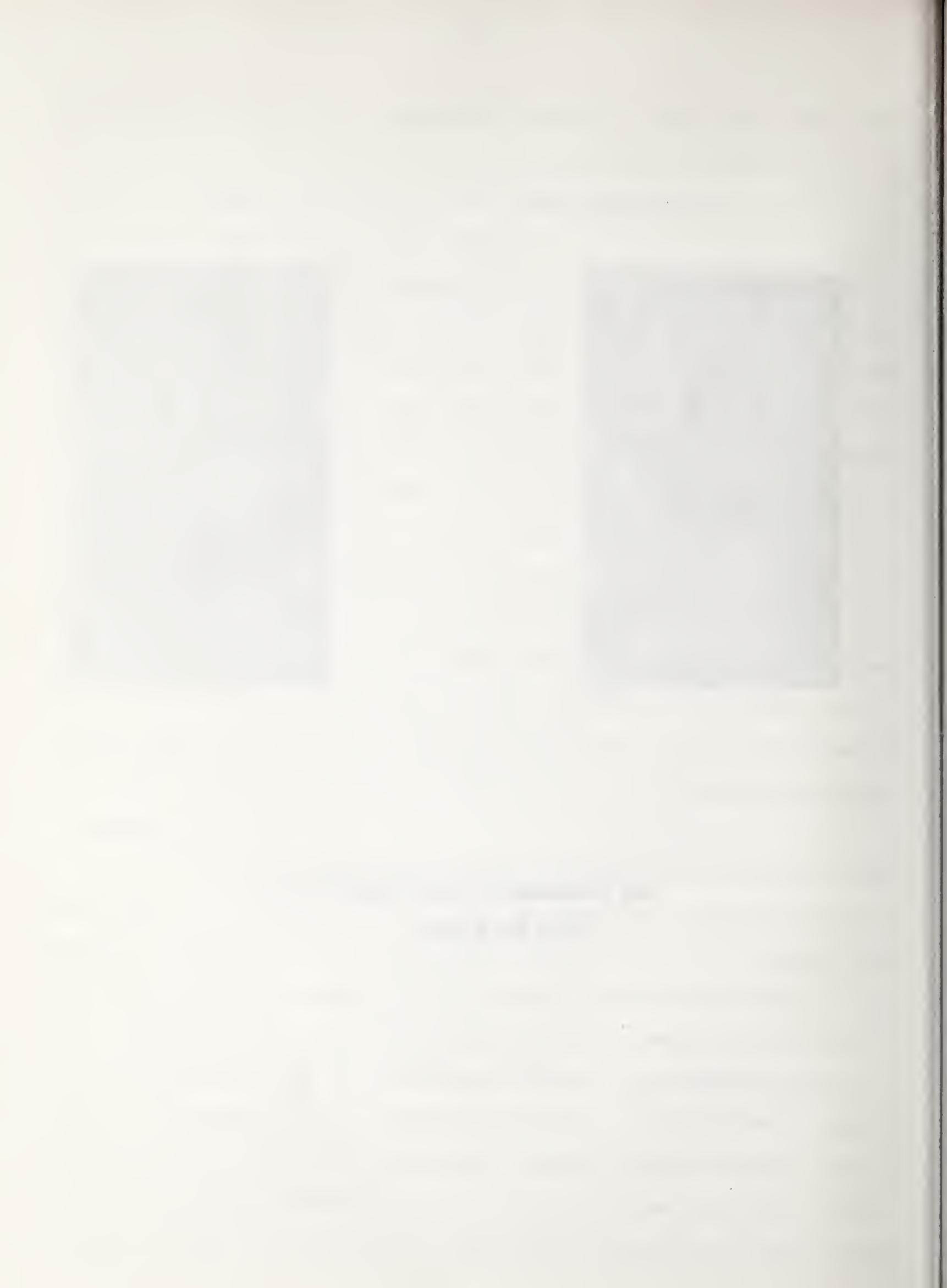
Lucie Ballinger's parents had both died in Texas in 1866, and her eldest sister, Jane Logan Ballinger, had married a rising young physician, Dr. William Edward Dailey, in Honey Grove in September, 1866. Dr. Dailey was then a resident of Stanford, Kentucky, and the young couple returned there to live. John L. Ballinger had left a substantial estate for those days, of which Lucie was entitled to her share on coming of legal age. She was 16 years of age when her parents died, and it was decided that she should join her married sister in Stanford to complete her education, together with her other sister, Ann Isabel Ballinger ("Aunt Nannie"). Thus Lucie was a young lady of some substance and a member of a prominent Kentucky family, on both sides, when she met young Mack Dunn in Stanford in the late sixties. She might have been considered a "good catch" by any ambitious young man. Besides, she was pretty and "cute," as her early photographs show. (For a sketch of the Ballinger family, see T. M. Green, Historic Families of Kentucky, pp. 187-188.)

The Ballinger-Paxton-Logan clan were more prominent in Kentucky history than were the Dunns and Scanlands. Some of their descendants were somewhat "social-minded." The Ballingers were Presbyterians. The Dunns were plain, although thrifty, country folk, and belonged to the more evangelistic Methodist Church. It was with these differing backgrounds, and yet with much in common, that Mack Dunn and Lucie Ballinger met while both were away from home and attending school in Stanford. Young Mack was not a bad "catch" himself. Son of a prosperous farmer, brilliant in his studies, and a goodlooking young man, it was only natural that these two young people should fall in love. Both were of medium stature, Lucie being only slightly over five feet in height, while Mack was about 5 feet 6 inches



Two photographs of James McMurry Dunn

as a Young Man



in his youth. She had the brown eyes and dark hair of the Ballingers, and he had the blue eyes and light-brown hair of his Scotch-Irish ancestors.

Just how the young couple first met is not known, but perhaps through Dr. Dailey, who apparently took a fancy to Mack Dunn, who was working at odd times in a local drugstore. There is also some evidence that he began the study of law, but dropped it. Whatever may have been the circumstances, they apparently made a sudden decision to get married. George Dunn, Mack's generous and indulgent father, wrote a note to the County Clerk, authorizing the marriage of his minor son. It may have been about this time, or a little later, that he gave his son the \$1060 mentioned in George Dunn's will.

On January 24, 1870 J. Mac Dunn and Dr. W. E. Dailey signed for the marriage license, and the couple were married the next day, January 25, at 8 a.m., in the residence of Dr. Dailey, brother-in-law of the bride. Reverend G. O. Barnes, pastor of the Presbyterian Church, performed the ceremony. Witnesses were Wesley Dunn, eldest living brother of the groom and then Cashier of the National Bank of Stanford; Dr. W. E. Dailey; and "Mrs. McRoberts," who was a cousin of George Dunn, father of the groom.<sup>1</sup>

Text of Marriage Bond and Certificate.— The marriage "bond," or license of J. Mac Dunn and Lucie Ballinger is on file in the County Clerk's office in Stanford, Lincoln County, Kentucky, in a bound volume labeled "1850-1870 Marriage Licenses," and may easily be found from the index. It consists of a printed form to be filled out by the groom, and there is a small inserted slip containing a note from George Dunn authorizing the license to be issued to his minor son. These documents were copied by the author on May 16, 1953, and read as follows:

---

<sup>1</sup> Mrs. McRoberts was the mother-in-law of James Dunn, father of Mrs. Margaret Dunn Frye, who figures so prominently in the early chapters of this narrative. James Dunn married Mamie Huffman McRoberts in 1882. She was born in 1862, and was a daughter of the Mrs. McRoberts who attended and was a witness at the wedding.)

Outside Title:

J. Mac Dunn - Lucey Ballinger  
W. E. Dailey

Bond of \$100

Stanford, Lincoln County, Ky. this 24th day of January, 1870

Attest:

R. Carson, Clerk

J. Mac Dunn  
W. E. Dailey

---

1. Date of Marriage: Jan. 25, 1870
2. Name of Groom: J. Mac Dunn
3. Residence of Groom: Stanford, Lincoln Co., Ky.
4. Age of Groom: 20 years
5. No. of Marriages: 1st
6. Occupation: Druggist
7. Birthplace of Groom: Marion County, Ky.
8. Birthplace of Groom's Father: Garrard County, Ky.
9. Birthplace of Groom's Mother: Marion County, Ky.

-0-

10. Name of Bride: Miss Lucy Ballinger
11. Residence of Bride: Stanford, Lincoln Co., Ky.
12. Age of Bride: 18 years
13. Number of Marriages: 1st
14. Birthplace of Bride's Father: Lincoln County, Ky.
15. Birthplace of Bride's Mother: Lincoln County, Ky.

To be married at Presbyterian Church, Stanford, on Jan. 25, 1870

Attest: R. Carson, Clerk

J. Mac Dunn

Marriage Certificate

I certify . . . that on Jan. 25, 1870, in the presence of Mrs. McRoberts, Westley Dunn & W. E. Dailey I did unite in the holy bonds of matrimony the above-named J. Mac Dunn and Lucy Ballinger . . .

G. O. Barnes  
Minister of the Gospel, Presbyterian Church<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>These documents were copied verbatim, exactly as spelled in the originals, but the marriage certificate by the Reverend G. O. Barnes has been condensed and summarized.

What caused the change of plans from a church wedding to one in the home of the bride's brother-in-law and sister is not known. Perhaps a blizzard was on and the bride's sisters could not go to the church. The ceremony was at 8 o'clock in the morning for some unknown reason, perhaps in order to make connections for a trip. There is no doubt as to the facts as here related, for on January 25, 1913, J. M. Dunn, who was then 62 years old wrote a note to his son, the author, which read: "Just 43 years ago today at 8 a.m. in Stanford, Ky., J. M. Dunn and Lucie Ballinger were married at the residence of Dr. W. E. Dailey, Rev. G. O. Barnes officiating. How many and varied the experiences since that morning! How kind and merciful the Heavenly Father has been to us through these years! How thankful I feel that He has spared our lives."

According to the marriage bond, the groom was 20 years old, whereas he was actually only 19, having been born on August 25, 1850. The bride's age was given as 18, although she was slightly older than the groom, her birth date being April 29, 1850. In later years there were many facetious references in the J. M. Dunn family to this difference in ages. How these small discrepancies got into the marriage application can only be conjectured. Perhaps Dr. Dailey supplied the information and the excited groom signed it, or perhaps the County Clerk, Mr. Carson, wrote it down in error. The bride lacked only about three months of being 20 years old, which in those days was equivalent almost to being an old maid. Even then a young lady might slightly misstate her age. Getting married was a nervous proposition then as now. Years later when a daughter of Lucie Dunn was about to be married, her mother asked her if her heart was not in her mouth, adding "Mine was when I was married." (Letter of Maggie Dunn (Clift) to W. H. Clift, October 18, 1897.)

Whether the young couple took a wedding trip, perhaps to George Dunn's farm in Marion County, or to the nearby cities of Louisville or Cincinnati, or whether they remained in Stanford is not known today. It is assumed that Mack Dunn continued to work as a druggist while they were settling down to married life, but this is pure conjecture. There were not listed in the 1870 census of Stanford, Lincoln County, or of Marion County, although Dr. Dailey and family were shown in the former and

George Dunn and family in the latter. No trace of Mack and Lucie Dunn has been found in any Kentucky county census for that year. They may have been away on a trip, or the census enumerator may simply have missed them.

On November 24, 1870 their first child was born in Stanford, a daughter christened Annie Belle. Perhaps it was this event that prompted George Dunn to make a gift of money to his son. It may have also been at this time that Wesley Dunn made a loan to his brother, Mack, taking a life insurance policy as collateral and security. (See p.65) After the birth of Annie Belle, named for her aunt, Ann Isabel (Aunt Nannie) and a favorite cousin of her mother's, there is a hiatus in the known history of the J. Mack Dunn family until they are found living in Honey Grove, Texas, where their second child, Oscar Terry Dunn, was born on October 10, 1872. These first two births and all other family vital statistics are recorded in a large Bible inscribed, "Mrs. Lucie Dunn's book presented by her husband, Nov. 24, 1871." This was the first anniversary of the birth of Annie Belle. (This family Bible has been preserved in the J. M Dunn family and is now in the possession of James Lewis Dunn, of Houston, Texas.)

Early Years in Texas. - Mack Dunn and his little family probably moved to Texas in late 1871 or early 1872. Unfortunately there are no letters or other documents available to indicate the exact date of their departure from Kentucky or their arrival in Texas. On March 23, 1872 Mack Dunn affiliated with the Honey Grove (Texas) Masonic Lodge No. 164, which proves that he was living in Honey Grove, Fannin County, Texas, at that time. The journey to Texas was made by rail and stage coach, with Annie, a babe-in-arms, who permitted only her mother to touch her. It was natural that they should settle in the Honey-Grove-Paris section, where Lucie Dunn's parents had lived, and where the 160 acre farm that she had inherited was located. This farm was near the western boundary of Lamar County, but closer to Honey Grove than to Paris. Most of her brothers and sisters were living in Paris, and the W. E. Daileys had also arrived there from Stanford by 1874.

Tax assessment records of Lamar County show that in 1869 Lucie Ballinger owned 160 acres of land, valued at \$480 for tax purposes. She appears there also in 1870 and 1871, the property being rendered for her by W. P. Ballinger in the latter year. In 1872 she appears as Mrs. Lucie Dunn, with 161 acres, valued at \$800. On July 5, 1873 J. M. and M. L. (Mary Lucretia) Dunn sold 35 acres "out of the Headrights survey of J. M. Brinkley. . . on the headwaters of Tollits Creek" to W. E. Stephens for a consideration of \$420. (The deed covering this sale is in Vol. X, p. 256 of Lamar County Deed Records, County Clerk's Office, Paris, Texas. The tax assessment records are also in the same office. Lucie Dunn does not appear in any of these records after 1873.)

Just what Mack Dunn did for a living when they first arrived in Honey Grove is only vaguely known. There is no evidence that he followed the profession of "druggist", which he gave as his occupation in his marriage license application. Although raised on a farm, he was not inclined toward farming, and apparently made no effort to cultivate his wife's 160 acres. It is likely that the sale of land in 1873 was made to raise funds to enter the newspaper business. He was known to have been connected with a newspaper in Honey Grove called "The Independent," and later established another newspaper there, "The Fannin County Advocate." The neighboring town of Dodd City was a strong rival of Honey Grove in those days, and some of its citizens offered Mack Dunn a bonus if he would move "The Advocate" to their town. The offer was accepted, but the venture was either unsuccessful or he tired of newspaper work, as the Dodd City episode lasted only a short while. (Unidentified clipping in author's possession, without date.)

An important change in the character and habits of Mack Dunn took place about this time, or perhaps even earlier, upon his marriage. He signed the temperance pledge, and throughout his life was a strong Prohibitionist. He also became a deeply religious man, thus showing the continuing influence of his devout father, George Dunn. He may already have joined the Methodist Church in Kentucky, but the date and place of his conversion are not recorded. He was later to be ordained as a Methodist

minister, and although he filled many pulpits on special occasions as a "local preacher", he never had a permanent church of his own. Throughout his life he was active in religious work, held family prayers in his home, often assisted in "protracted" or revival meetings, and attended all services of the Methodist Church wherever the family lived. His wife, Lucie, although raised as a Presbyterian, soon joined her husband's denomination. Mack Dunn "affiliated" with the Masonic Lodge in 1872, indicating that he may have already been a member. He was a loyal Mason most of his life, and held high office in this order, attaining to the 32nd degree. Some years later he also became a member of the Knights Templar branch of this organization.<sup>1</sup>

During his first residence in Honey Grove, J. Mack Dunn undertook his first job as a school teacher, and this was to be the most important occupation of his life. Although at times he abandoned teaching to try out something more lucrative, it remained the most dependable source of his livelihood. He was never unduly ambitious to make money, and was generous with what he earned, at times perhaps to the disadvantage of his family. He was a dedicated and inspiring teacher, which was then as now an underpaid profession. But the heritage he was to leave his children and grandchildren was far more precious than worldly riches.

The First Decade in Texas.— Two more children were born to the J. M. Dunns during their first residence in Honey Grove. Oscar Terry Dunn, the second child, has already been mentioned. He was born October 10, 1872, and died while still an

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<sup>1</sup>Records of the Masonic Grand Lodge of Texas shows that J. M. Dunn remained a member of the Honey Grove lodge from March 23, 1872, to July 1, 1882, at which time he was in Daingerfield, Texas. He served as Junior Warden in 1872, as Senior Deacon in 1874, as Worshipful Master in 1877, and as Senior Deacon in 1878. He evidently kept up with his membership in Honey Grove during times of non-residence there. He affiliated with Oasis Lodge in Daingerfield on May 5, 1883, and demitted on June 4, 1892 after he had left there. He affiliated with Sulphur Springs Lodge No. 221 in 1898, served as junior steward in 1900, and remained a member until April 16, 1927. This lodge records his death as of March 6, 1928. (Data received from Masonic Grand Lodge, Waco, Texas, 1960.)

infant, on May 18, 1873. In the Dunn family Bible, the name of George Frank Dunn appears, but was stricken out, and Oscar Terry Dunn was selected instead. No one remembers why this name was chosen, as no relatives or close friends having these names are known. The third child was born in Honey Grove on May 29, 1874, a son who was named George Alrie Ernest Dunn, after his father's younger brother, George Alrie, in part. He was always called Ernest during his short life, for he was destined to die when he was only ten years of age.

The first of the many moves of the family, with the possible exception of a sojourn in Dodd City, began in 1875, when J. M. Dunn accepted an offer to teach school in the nearby town of Denison, Texas. There the fourth child was born on February 24, 1876, another daughter who was named Maggie Ellen, probably after her father's sisters Margaret and Ellen. She turned out to be one of the finest characters of the entire family. The Dunns remained in Denison for only a brief period, just how long is not known. By 1877 they were back in Honey Grove for a stay of several years, as Mack Dunn was Worshipful Master of the local lodge in 1877 and Senior Deacon in 1878. During this second Honey Grove stay, the fifth child was born, a daughter who was named Jennie Ballinger Dunn and whose birth date was February 7, 1879. She was named for her mother's eldest sister, Mrs. Jane Logan Ballinger Dailey, of Paris (Aunt Jennie), with the addition of the Ballinger family name. Jennie was destined to die at the age of nine. Still another daughter was born during this second stay in Honey Grove. Georgie McMurry Dunn was born on March 15, 1881, being named for her grandfather, George Dunn, and the McMurry family connections. She was to live to adult womanhood and became a tower of strength in the family. Annie Belle, the first-born was now 11 years old. Of the six children born up to this time, only Oscar Terry had not survived.

The Move to Daingerfield. - In the fall of 1881, when J. M. Dunn was 31 years of age, he accepted an offer to serve as principal of a school in Daingerfield, a small town of some 300 population, situated about 100 miles southeast of Honey Grove near the Texas-Louisiana border. This school had been founded in 1870, and was thought to

have a promising future. The young principal left his family in Honey Grove, and went ahead of them at the opening of the 1881-82 school year. Lucie Dunn and her five children did not arrive in Daingerfield until early in January, 1882. They made the trip by rail to Jefferson, where they had to change trains, and thence to Daingerfield, 25 miles distant.

By a strange coincidence their stay in Jefferson on January 2, 1882 has come to light. On that date J. M. Dunn and family registered at the Excelsior House, an old hostelry which still exists in Jefferson. The entry bears the notation, Room L-1, the charge of \$1.50 per day; and the home address, "Daingerfield." J. M. Dunn was not so famous that his signature was purposely preserved for posterity, but it happened to be on the same page of the old Excelsior House register on which Jay Gould, the famous railroad builder and financier, signed his name.

The discovery of J. M. Dunn's signature came about through a remarkable coincidence. Some time in 1954 when James Lewis Dunn was stopping at the Excelsior House while on a business trip to Jefferson, as he frequently did, he was idly examining three old hotel registers which were on exhibit in glass cases in the hotel lobby. One was open at a page which bore the signature of "R. B. Hayes, Washington, D.C.," on January 30, 1878; a second one was open to show the signature of "Genl. Grant, Washington, D. C." on February 7, 1883; and the third one was open at the page where Jay Gould had registered on January 2, 1882, his given name being signed in the form of a crude drawing of a jay-bird. A cross appeared opposite his name, and at the bottom of this page was the notation "X End of Jefferson, Texas X". The port of Jefferson had refused to allow Jay Gould's railroad to enter the town proper, and this was his way of prophesying the ruin of the town, which was then the metropolis of East Texas with a population of 50,000 to 60,000 people as compared with about 4,000 today. As J. L. Dunn cast his glance down the page, he was astonished to find the name of his own father, still fairly clear and legible. By careful study and deduction, the explanation of why the family was in Jefferson at that time was worked

out in accordance with the facts as related above. (A list of the signatures on this page from the old hotel register appears on page 81). As is well known, the town of Jefferson, which was then a port of transshipment for sea-borne and river-borne merchandise, later had its water communications destroyed, and has been for many years a small inland town which has dwindled to less than one-tenth of its former size. Efforts are being made to restore its water channels in order to revive its former prosperity.

The move to Daingerfield, via Jefferson, was recalled by Mrs. Annie Belle Dunn Sherwood, eldest child of J. M. and Lucie Dunn, in a letter to her brother, the author, on March 1, 1953. Her memory as a child of 11 was not too distinct. She wrote as follows:

You seem to be very much interested about all of us being in Jefferson. . . Papa was teaching in Daingerfield, so we were moving from Honey Grove to that place, and didn't make connection, so had to spend the night or part of it in Jefferson. Am sure trains were running then. . . The next morning we took the train to Daingerfield, I suppose. I didn't realize that Mama had so many children at that time, but guess she did--know it was a job traveling with so many. I know that we had to stay at the hotel in Daingerfield ten days until our furniture came. (Letter to Wm. E. Dunn, March 1, 1953. Mrs. Sherwood was in her 82nd year when this letter was written, and died in December, 1955.)

The teaching job at Daingerfield, although lasting only two school years, was one of the most rewarding and satisfying of J. M Dunn's career. He always recalled it as a challenging experience. He had already acquired a keen sense of responsibility for the moulding of the character and minds of young people. Among his pupils in Daingerfield was the late Senator Morris Sheppard of Texas, who always gave credit to J. M. Dunn for arousing in him an ambition to accomplish something worth while in life. They remained close friends throughout their lives, and Senator Sheppard never forgot his old teacher or any member of the J. M. Dunn family.

Another daughter was born in Daingerfield on December 28, 1882, being the seventh child. She was named Mary Lucretia, for her mother, but was always called Mary instead of Lucie. There were now six living children in the Dunn family, and the young couple were hard put to feed and clothe so many on a teacher's meager salary. J. M. Dunn was soon to receive a new teaching offer, probably at an increase in salary, which

EXCELSIOR HOUSE, Jefferson, Texas  
 Mrs. K. Woods, Proprietress

Monday, Jan. 2, 1882

Name	Residence	Arrival	Departure		
		Room	Meal	Room	Meal
J. L. Smith	Marshall, Texas				
Jay Gould	New York City X				
Wm. H. Farley	Texas				
J. Brodrick					
Max Rosenfeld					
James S. Fitzgerald	Jefferson, Texas				
W B Wise	Paris, Texas Ret.				
W. G. Whitman	" " "				
E. T. Bowen	Conn.				
W. A. Martin	Mis. P. RR.				
E. Courtney	Denison, Texas M K T RR				
Robert Adams	Jefferson, Tex.				
W. A. Miller	Tyler				
S. S. Giveans	Sulphur Sta.				
J. M. Dunn & family	Daingerfield	L 1	\$1.50 pd.		
Joe F. Demount & wife					
Sam Turk	Fort Worth, Texas				
J. A. Cameron	Kean City				
J. M. Frazier	" "				
S. S. Givens	Daingerfield & Wife	L 3			

X End of Jefferson Texas X

"Everything is lovely, and the goose hangs high (Writing unidentified)  
 And as a matter of course sublimity rules -Epanimondas

On the other two guest registers:

Wed., Jan. 30, 1878:

R. B. Hayes Washington, D.C.  
 Phil H. Foscue Kellyville, Texas

Wed. Feb 7, 1883: Gnl. Grant Washington, D. C.

WED: 6/1/58

he could not refuse. The new job was to take them to Sulphur Springs, county seat of Hopkins County, located about half-way between Daingerfield and the Honey Grove-Paris section of Northeast Texas. This was to be as permanent home as the peripatetic Dunn family ever had, where they were to experience relative affluence, a certain distinction, the sadness of bereavement, and the joy of new progeny. They moved to Sulphur Springs in the summer or fall of 1883, to remain there, off and on, for a period of some 20 years.

The First Sulphur Springs Era.- The position that J. M. Dunn had accepted was that of Professor of Latin, Modern Languages, and Natural Science in Central College. This then famous old school had been founded in 1876, when the citizens of Sulphur Springs, dissatisfied with the existing boarding school, had offered their school building and land to the local district of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, on condition that a good school be established and operated under the auspices of that Church organization. Professor J. W. Adkisson was the first President, J. M. Dunn was later to succeed him. This first residence in Sulphur Springs was to continue from 1883 to 1889 or 1890, when the Dunn family moved to Garland, Dallas County, Texas, where J. M. Dunn was principal of the local school. Just why he left Sulphur Springs in 1889 or 1890, is not now known, but it was probably because of salary considerations. His return to Sulphur Springs in 1891 is not difficult to understand, as he was offered the Presidency of Central College, and was to attain one of the pinnacles of his teaching career.

Just where the J. M. Dunn family lived when they first came to Sulphur Springs is not clear. Central College was located on Church Street in the northern part of town. On February 21, 1884 Lucie Dunn bought one acre of land from J. H. Lowe at what was later known as 720 College Street, about 1 1/2 miles from Central College, in the East end of town. The price paid was \$900 of which \$200 was in cash and \$700 in four promissory notes of \$175 each, the last being due on April 1, 1885. The funds for this purchase were probably derived from the sale of Lucie Dunn's remaining

land in Lamar County, but no record of any sale other than that already mentioned for 1873 has been found. (The information concerning the purchase of the College Street property is contained in an abstract filed with the Sulphur Springs Loan and Building Association when a loan for \$700 was made to J. M. and Lucie Dunn on December 3, 1901.-Letter to Wm. E. Dunn, dated April 19, 1960.) There is no record of a house having been build on this College Street property until 1901, but there may have been one. This land had a rather checkered history, and the deeds covering the various transactions afford one of the clues to the movement of the Dunn family during the 1880's and 1890's.

On February 1, 1889 J. M. and Lucie Dunn sold the same property to E. S. Easley for \$1070. For some strange reason the deed was not recorded until May 19, 1903, after the loan from the Loan and Building Association was granted. On October 29, 1890 E. S. Easley sold back the same tract to J. M. Dunn, then "of the County of Dallas," for \$720, of which \$50 was in cash and \$670 was in the form of two notes for \$335 each, which had apparently been endorsed over to F. M. Rogers and were now paid in full. This deed was also not recorded until May 19, 1903. The 1890 deed clearly indicates that J. M. Dunn was then living in Dallas County, where Garland is located, and it may have presaged the return of the Dunn family to Sulphur Springs (These deeds are on file in the County Clerk's Office, Sulphur Springs, Texas, and photostats of them are in the author's possession.)

J. M. Dunn was 33 years old when he took up his duties as "Professor of Latin," etc., in Central College. Lucie Dunn was a few months older. They were both in the prime of life. On June 18, 1844 when the family was beginning to get well settled in Sulphur Springs, a heartbreaking tragedy struck them. Ernest, the only living son, met his death by drowning in a pool at the local fair grounds. The entry was duly recorded in the "Death" column of the family Bible, his age being noted as "10 years, 20 days." J. M. Dunn was on a trip to Honey Grove at the time, and a clipping from a Honey Grove newspaper (unidentified) told the story in these words:

Last Tuesday J. M. Dunn, well known to all, arrived in our city expecting to make a short visit to his friends and relatives here. He had been here only a few hours when a telegram reached him from Sulphur Spring, his present home, informing him of the sudden death by drowning of his only boy, Ernest. Mr. Dunn and John Ballinger (Lucie Dunn's brother) immediately took a buggy and started for Sulphur Springs. Ernest was a bright lad, some ten or twelve years of age. In this untimely affliction Mr. and Mrs. Dunn have the sympathy of this entire community.

Another clipping from the Sulphur Springs Gazette recounted the tragedy in these words:

Prof. Dunn's bright little boy, Ernest, about ten years old, was drowned in the pool at the fair grounds last Tuesday. One other little boy about the same age was with him, who at once ran to Mr. Joe White and Mr. McKenzie, who were working in a field nearby, and told them that his playmate had sunk in the water. These gentlemen went with all possible speed; rushed into the pool; recovered the body; and did all that could be done to restore life, but to no avail. Prof. Dunn was absent, and the afflicted mother is almost heartbroken. The entire community extends sympathy to the family.

It took many years for the grief-stricken parents to recover from this blow. "The Lord giveth and the Lord taketh away" was their only comforting thought. Two months later, on August 13, 1884, the eighth child was born, another son to replace the lamented Ernest. He was named James Murry Dunn. The entry in the family Bible was in J. M. Dunn's strong and legible handwriting. James Murray was not fated to live long to take the place of his brother, Ernest, for he died as a child on May 1, 1887, not quite three years of age. This was the third death in the family, leaving five children, all girls. It is easy to understand, therefore, the joy with which the birth of another son, the ninth child, was hailed on March 2, 1888, Texas Independence Day. He was named William Edward Dunn, in honor of Dr. William Edward Dailey, brother-in-law of Lucie Dunn. It is not surprising that for the next four years he became the "apple of his mother's eye." "Eddie" Dunn, as his mother and all the family called him, has survived to old age, and is the author of the present narrative. He becomes Ancestor No. 5 for his children and their descendants. The house in which he was born has been torn down, but it is believed to have been on Church Street.

In that same year of 1888 death struck again the J. M. Dunn family. Jennie

Ballinger Dunn died on October 29, 1888 at the age of nine, of an illness diagnosed in those days as "slow fever." It was probably a form of typhoid. Again it was J. M. Dunn who made the sad entry in the family Bible. This item appeared in the local paper:

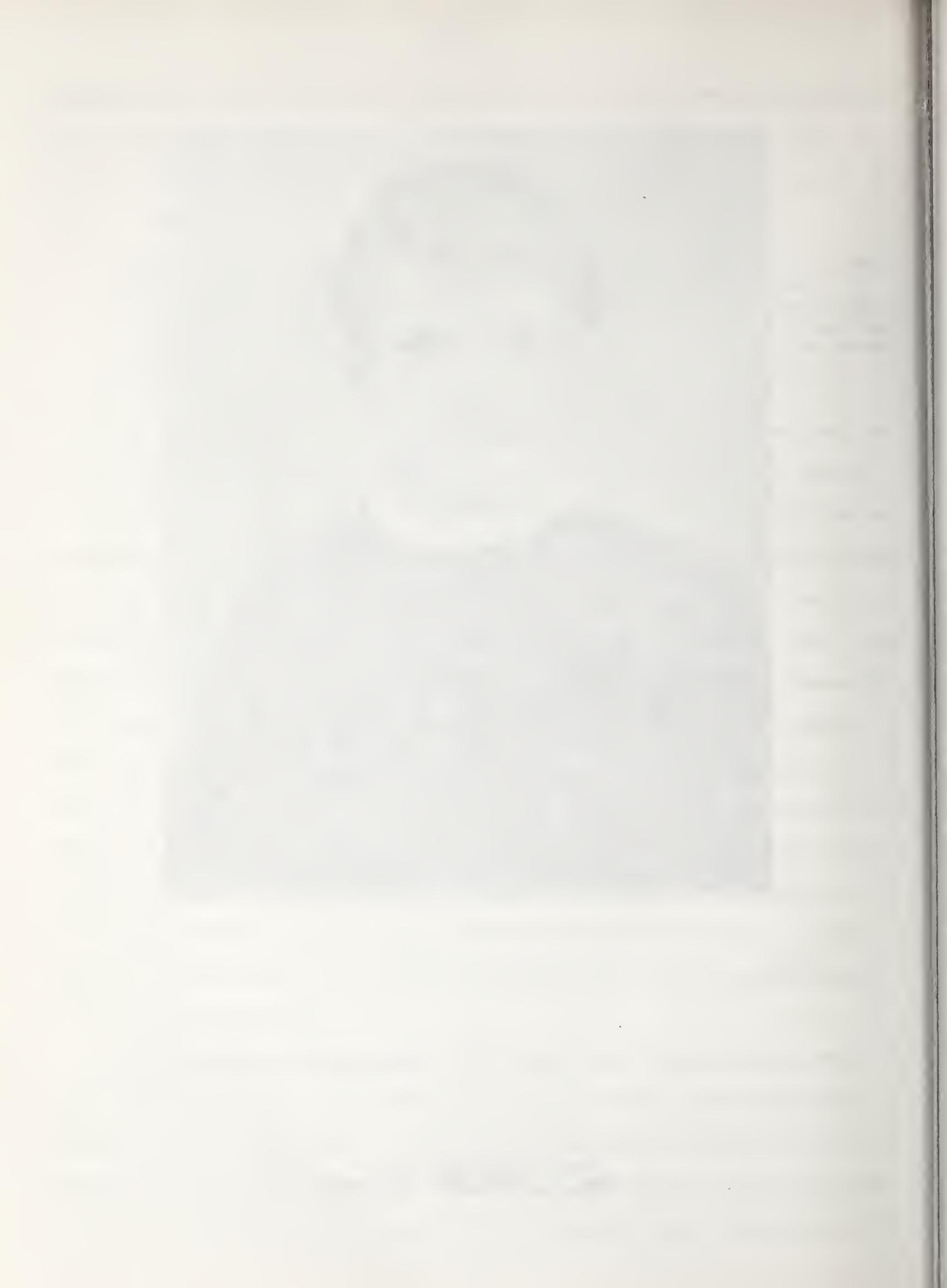
Jennie, the little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Dunn, died at 12 o'clock last Monday, and was buried in the city cemetery Tuesday morning at 10 o'clock. Jennie had been ill for many weeks, and her return to health was looked forward to with an anxiety which no words can express. But the angel of Death came for her, and laying aside all of earth, she went on the dread journey whose end we are taught to believe is heaven - whose object is eternal life. "Suffer little children to come unto me."

The first stay of the J. M. Dunn family in Sulphur Springs had not been too kind to them, but they had already put down deep roots in this community during the six years since they had moved there from Daingerfield. Perhaps the three bereavements in 1884, 1887, and 1888 had cast such a shadow over them that they were ready for a change of scene. At any rate, if the 1889 deed of sale can be taken as evidence, the family moved to Garland, Dallas County in the fall of 1889. They apparently remained there for two school years. Some of the daughters remembered this stay as a pleasant one, where they also made many friends. But it was probably with genuine pleasure that they returned to Sulphur Springs in the fall of 1891, when J. M. Dunn became President of Central College. From this time on he was also to be known as the Reverend J. M. Dunn, although the better known title of "Professor Dunn" was to characterize him the rest of his life. No details of the Garland residence are known to any of the living members of the J. M. Dunn family. Even the dates of this stay are uncertain and have been determined only by inference and deduction.

The Second Sulphur Springs Era. - Upon returning to Sulphur Springs, the family made their home in the residence and boarding school of Central College. They may have lived again for a few months on Church Street, next door to the Henderson family. Here the author remembers he was told that he fell off the low porch one day, when two or three years old, and broke his arm. Certainly by July



Jennie Ballinger Dunn  
(Feb. 7, 1879-Oct. 29, 1888)



18, 1892 they were living in the College residence, for it was on that date that James Lewis Dunn, the tenth and last child and another welcomed son, was born, when his parents were both 42 years of age. Why he was given the name of "James Lewis" is not entirely clear. "James" was probably for his father, or for his maternal uncle, James M. Ballinger (Uncle Jim), but where the "Lewis" came from is a mystery. It may have been in honor of some of the Kentucky relatives or friends. "Lewy" Dunn, as he has always affectionately been called by his family and friends, was also destined to grow to manhood, and is now one of the two surviving members of the family. He becomes Ancestor No. 5 for his children and their descendants.

Some three months before the birth of James Lewis, the first wedding in the J. M. Dunn family took place. Annie Belle, born in Kentucky and now 21 years of age, became the bride of Marvin Beverly Sherwood, a young druggist, on April 6, 1892. The ceremony was held in the "parlor" of the College residence, the bride's father, the Reverend J. M. Dunn, and the groom's father, the Reverend Thomas E. Sherwood, officiating. The young couple later moved to Pottsboro, Texas, for a few years, but soon returned to make their home in Sulphur Springs, where Marvin B. Sherwood became one of the city's leading citizens and bankers for many years. He was a pillar of the Methodist Church, gifted with a magnificent voice, and lead the choir in his church for a long period. (Vital statistics of the Sherwood family are given toward the end of Chapter IV.)

Central College offered a course of instruction about equivalent to that of a junior college today. There were ample grounds surrounding the large school building and residence, which were located on the present Church Street, a few blocks north of the Cotton Belt railway station. The Sulphur Springs Senior High School is situated on this land today. The Dunn family occupied the fairly spacious quarters of the residence, which included rooms for the young lady "boarders" who attended the College. Now Lucie Dunn could have a servant or

two to help with the work, including a cook. A hired man was employed to look after the family cows and horses. A second vehicle, a surrey, was bought in addition to the traditional buggy, for local transportation. Sulphur Springs was then a town of some 3,000 population, and was believed to have a great future. It was for many years a popular residential center to which many families moved in order to educate their children. J. M. Dunn had pupils from many adjacent counties who always remained affectionately loyal to their teacher. He performed the marriage ceremonies for many of them and their children in later years.

The enrollment was perhaps as much as 200 pupils, including local and out-of-town boys and girls. Here the Dunn daughters greatly furthered their education, and began to show the talents that distinguished them in later life.<sup>1</sup>

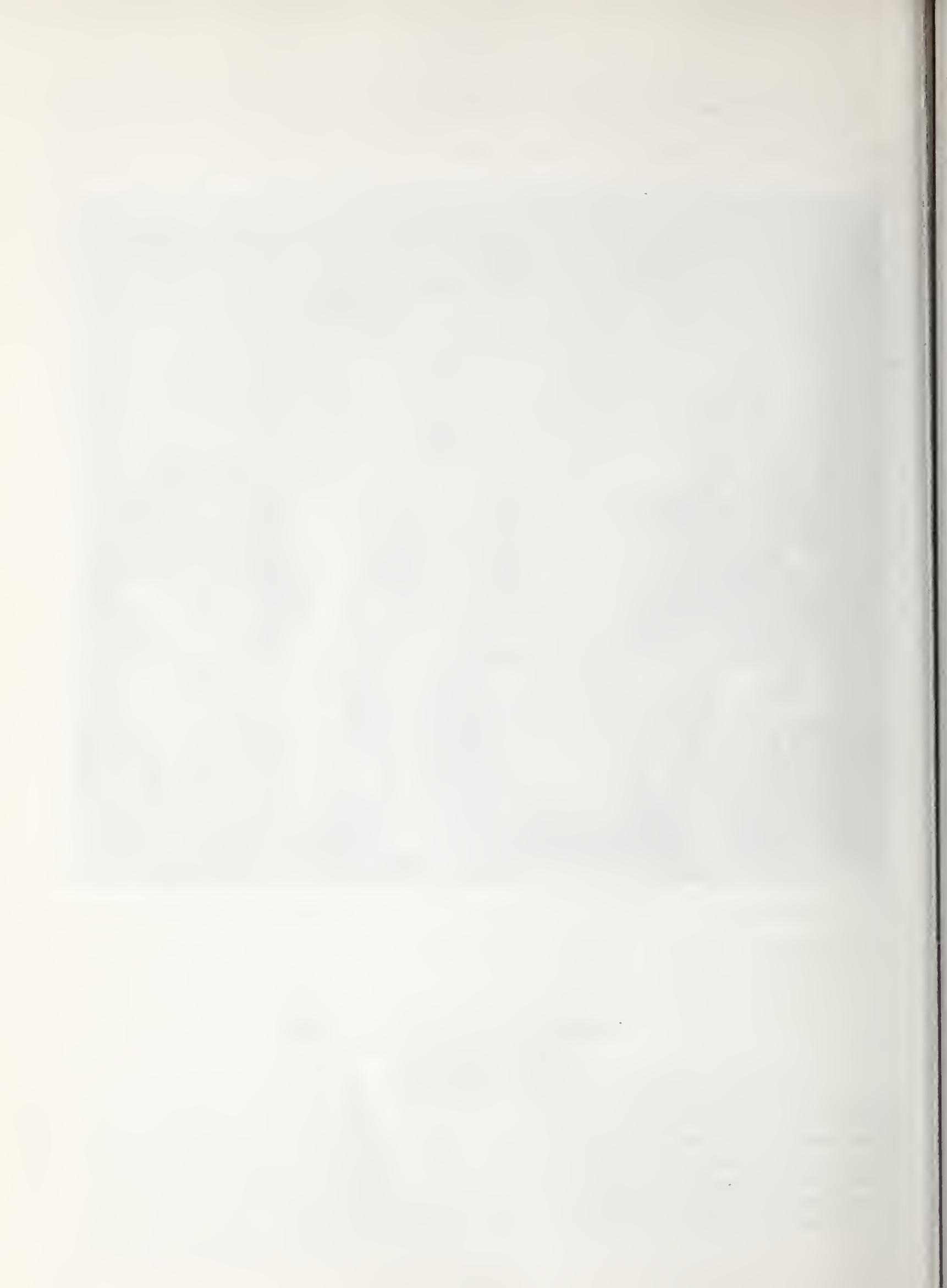
J. M. Dunn's term as President of Central College was one of the best periods of his life. His remuneration is not known, and it is likely that the institution had to be operated as a self-supporting enterprise of the Methodist Church. He had income enough, however, to do many of the things that appealed to him. He joined the Order of Knights Templar on March 10, 1892, and served in several prominent offices of the lodge, of which he was a member until 1908. The handsome uniform of this order, with its plumed hat and shining sword, was a constant delight to his young children whenever they could play with them. (The sword is now in the possession of Mrs. Lucie Clift Price, his granddaughter, of Austin, Texas.) J. M. Dunn also attended many school and church conferences in Texas and outside the State, going on one occasion to Washington, D.C. and New

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<sup>1</sup>Two sources are available on the history of Central College. One is "A History of Hopkins County," an M. A. thesis written by G. A. St. Clair at the University of Texas. The other is an article on Hopkins County and Sulphur Springs, published in the "Handbook of Texas," a publication of the Texas State Historical Association, Austin, Texas. These two sources differ slightly in their facts and dates. According to the latter, Central College was not chartered until 1881, whereas the former gives it as 1878. The 1881 date may be more accurate, as it would correspond better to the move of the Dunn family from Daingerfield in 1883.



Graduating Class of Central College  
Sulphur Springs, Texas  
J.M. Dunn, Pres.  
(circa 1892-93)



York City.<sup>1</sup> All of his life he was an avid and inveterate traveler. He was becoming well known all over Texas. In 1894 he was nominated by the Prohibition Party as its candidate for Governor of Texas, but of course could not hope to win out over the regular Democratic Party nominee. His campaign, however, brought him considerable prominence.

The position as President of Central College, despite all its satisfaction and challenge, was not an easy one. The Methodist Church still owed some \$5000 on its original purchase, and current income did not suffice to pay off this debt. In 1895 the school was sold to a private educator, Professor H. P. Eastman, who continued it for a number of years under the name of "Eastman College." J. M. Dunn had evidently seen the handwriting on the wall, and had begun to look about for another location. He found a new job in the small village of Axtell, Texas, 12 miles east of Waco, where one of the first independent school districts in Texas was to be organized. To this new home J. M. and Lucie Dunn, with their five unmarried children, were to move in the autumn of 1894. The family now consisted of Maggie Ellen, Georgie McMurry, Mary Lucretia, William Edward, and James Lewis Dunn. Annie Belle Sherwood was left in Sulphur Springs, and was starting a family of her own. A new chapter in the Dunn family saga was now to begin.

The Dunn family was not to sever permanently its ties with Sulphur Springs. It always remained the "old home" of the Dunns and they were to return to live there several times. There three of their children were buried by 1888, and it was to be the last resting place of the parents and other children. J. M. Dunn had made an indelible mark on the community, where his influence for good had been

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<sup>1</sup> In a letter from Asa Ramsey, one of Maggie Dunn's early suitors in Sulphur Springs and elsewhere, he wrote on June 14, 1894: "I see Prof. Dunn, or rather "Father" has returned from New York." On September 3, 1894, Mr. Ramsey wrote her again: "I have loved you for 3 years - hope you get an elocution class in Campbell. I don't know if Mrs. Dunn and the children left (for Axtell) today." (Letters in possession of Mrs. Lucie Clift Price, daughter of Maggie Dunn Clift, of Austin, Texas.) This romance did not blossom into matrimony.

so great. It was with much regret and considerable misgivings that the family left Sulphur Springs, a small city of some 4000 inhabitants by now, and prepared to take up life in a rural community which seemed very backward in comparison. Mack and Lucie Dunn were both 44 years old when they began this new chapter in their married life. To the former especially, Axtell offered a new opportunity and challenge.

The Axtell Era. - The new independent school district of Axtell started out in the fall of 1894 with great plans and ambitions. The school itself was called "Axtell Institute" and its stationery described it as "A Preparatory Institution for Both Sexes." The faculty was shown as consisting of "J. M. Dunn, A. M., Principal; Miss Sallie Lou Trice, Head of the Primary Department; and Miss Jennie Muse, Head of the Music Department." The Board of Directors was as follows: W. C. Morgan, President; Dr. J. C. Cavender, Secretary; and R. C. Thompson, Treasurer. The enrollment varied from 40 to 50 pupils, drawn from the village of Axtell and the surrounding farming district.

Axtell itself had been founded as a townsite in 1881, and was named for D. B. Axtell, a civil engineer for the Cotton Belt Railway. By 1885 it had a postoffice, general store, and a population of 25. By 1894 it probably had grown to 150 inhabitants, with three or four stores, two saloons, and a few small industries, including a cotton gin, lumber yard, etc. The atmosphere of Axtell was distinctly rural, and life there was drab and monotonous, especially to the Dunn family, as compared with Sulphur Springs. The school was housed in a one-story frame building, consisting of a chapel and two or three classrooms. Chapel services were held daily. ("A photograph of Axtell Institute appears in the appendix.

The Dunn family lived in several houses, but finally found one that would accommodate them fairly comfortably, with a good well or cistern, a barn and lot for the horse and cow, and the usual outhouses. The three children of school age attended the Institute. William Edward had gone to kindergarten in Sulphur Springs, and was in the second grade. James Lewis was two years old on arrival in Axtell and six when they left. Maggie had graduated from Central College, and was soon to teach el-

cution at several places. Between these teaching assignments she lived "at home" in Axtell. Correspondence between Maggie and her father during these years throws interesting light on life there. They were obviously very close to each other, but the entire family was very closely knit together.

On September 5, 1895, about a year after arriving in Axtell, J. M. Dunn wrote on school stationery to Maggie, who was visiting her relatives in Paris, Texas.

My Dear Daughter: Your letter came into my hands last Monday, while I was on a flying visit to my home and family. I spent last week in West in attendance on the Waco District Conference. Left there Saturday night, made close connection in Waco, and went to Riesel, thence Sunday morning to Battle. I remained there until today, save a hurried trip home Monday, and preached ten times to that people. Georgie and I both came home this afternoon, Miss Ada Herring and a Mr. Mathewson kindly bringing us over in a carriage. I expect to start in the morning for Alvarado, where I shall remain a week assisting Bro. Browning in a meeting. I suppose this will wind up my running about for a while.

School will open here on the 23rd inst. We are expecting a larger school than last year. Mr. Herring is to return and will be accompanied by Mr. Mathewson from Battle. They have rented a house and will board themselves. . . .

Our school building is to be improved by the addition of a partition dividing the chapel from the recitation room. It is to be made of first-class ducking and will be constructed so as to roll up or down. Its cost is roughly estimated at three dollars or more. A subscription was raised to erect an additional flue in the South wing of the building. It will be of sheet-iron with ventilators and all modern improvements. Mr. Jim Green will likely secure the contract.

I hope you will prepare for the recitation at Dallas on Prohibition Day. I will furnish the money necessary, but cannot do so until in October. I think you ought to go to Pottsboro, if possible, by the time the school opens. If you haven't the money to go, write me at once to Alvarado, and I will send it from there. We are all well and send love. We are all glad to hear from you, so write often. Give love to all the folks in Paris. Be a good girl. I never fail to mention you in my prayers. Your loving Father, J. M. Dunn

On April 3, 1897 Maggie Dunn wrote to William H. Clift, the man she was soon to marry. She had just arrived back in Axtell, on April 1:

Well, I am really at home once more, and it seems just as nice. I certainly gave them a surprise. . . The children recognized me before I got to the gate, and you ought to have seen them running and shouting. They all said it was the best "April Fool" they had gotten. I felt so happy I could hardly keep from crying. Everybody has given me such a warm welcome. Mrs. McNeal and Miss Trice said they would never get tired of looking at me. Don't get jealous now . . . The children have all grown so much too. Eddie and Lewy are great big boys. Lewy is just as cute as can be and real smart, talks nearly all the time. I got him a sailor in Waco and he is very proud of it. Georgie and Mary are almost young ladies. They are lots prettier than their older sister, but I won't allow you to say so, so be very careful when you see them. Georgie had a beau last night. Of course I teased her like everything. They all inquired particularly about you, and wanted to know when you were coming down. It seems real strange to be at home. I haven't gotten used to it yet. Went into the kitchen to make a

cake. Felt real awkward, and almost made a complete failure. Guess I'll be fully installed by November, so don't get uneasy and be afraid you won't have something good to eat.

One of the major events in the Dunn family history during the Axtell era was the marriage of Maggie Ellen. When Marvin B. Sherwood, her brother-in-law, and his wife Annie, moved to Pottsboro, Maggie went there to teach elocution in the local school. There she met and fell in love with the handsome young principal, William Henry Clift, in the fall of 1896, and they were married in Axtell on November 30, 1897. The bride's father performed the ceremony. In the one of the many interesting and romantic "love letters" exchanged between the young couple, the humor of J. M. Dunn is reflected. Young Will Clift had inquired about a preacher and what the fee would be. Maggie replied that she had told her father that they would depend on him to marry them, and that he had stated his usual terms: If the ceremony were performed in the school house or in a buggy, his fee would be \$1.00; if they were married in a house like civilized folks, it would be \$1.50; that when he pronounced them "man and wife," and told them to join hands, that did not mean that the groom was to shake hands with the preacher.<sup>1</sup>

Maggie Ellen was nearing the age of 22 when she was married. The author remembers the feverish preparations for the wedding,--trips to Waco to buy the trousseau, sewing and fittings at home, and then the family's unanimous opinion that the bride looked lovely and not the least like a country girl reared in that environment. Also her mother's proud remark as she surveyed her daughter in her wedding finery, "Blood will tell." The romance of Will and Maggie Clift is a most interesting story in itself, but space will not permit it to be told here. They were to have two children, Lucie born August 27, 1900, and named for her maternal grandmother, and Charles Henry, born

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<sup>1</sup>W. H. Clift visited Maggie in Axtell in the summer of 1897, but did not get enough courage to ask her father for her hand. Perhaps he was still a little skittish about getting married. He later explained his failure to talk, to J. M. Dunn by saying that he didn't have a chance to do so. He wrote: "I don't care so much for your father. I like your mother much better." A little later on October 20, 1897, he wrote a brief and very formal note to J. M. Dunn asking permission to marry Maggie on November 30, 1897.



Teachers and Pupils of  
Axtell Institute, Axtell, Texas  
(circa 1896-97)





Axtell Institute  
Music Class  
circa 1897-98  
J.M. Dunn, 4th in top row  
Mary Dunn, 7th in bottom row



August 15, 1903, and named for the Clift side of the family. Unfortunately they were to lose their mother while both were very young.

Another Axtell romance which blossomed into matrimony was the marriage of Miss Sallie Lou Trice, a fine woman and teacher to Joseph A. Thompson, prosperous merchant and farmer and a brother of R. C. Thompson, treasurer of the School Board. This was also a happy union, and "Miss Trice" kept in touch with and remained a close friend of the J. M. Dunn family for several decades before her death in 1953.

Another romance in the Dunn family was nipped in the bud. Mary Lucretia was much smitten with a youth who was attending Axtell Institute whose name was Charlie Oxford. The family were strongly opposed to such a match, and in the summer of 1897 Mary was sent to Sulphur Springs to live with her sister, Mrs. Sherwood, in the hope that she would forget her Axtell suitor. Maggie mentioned this situation to W. H. Clift in a letter of July 14, 1897. She wrote:

Mary hasn't forgotten her sweetheart yet. She wrote a letter to one of her girl friends here (in Axtell) and gave it to Mr. Sherwood to mail. He opened it and didn't send it. All she wrote about was her "dear little Charlie." Said she still loved him and never would forget him no matter how long they were separated and that she cried every day to see him. She said Annie and Mr. Sherwood watched her like a hawk. She didn't write like she'd ever heard from Charlie, and they were the first words she'd sent him--which he didn't get. Poor child, I suppose she's waiting patiently. Mamma's only hope is to keep her away.

Mary Dunn was then only 15 years old. She was an attractive blond, full of spirit, and played the piano very well. She did not return to Axtell, and the romance with "Charlie" was permanently broken off, only to be followed by another one on the rebound which was not long delayed.

The life of J. M. Dunn from 1894 to 1898 was that of the average principal and teacher in a small rural school. Photographs taken in Axtell showed him as looking much older and more bald. The school job was not an easy one. There were problems of disciplining "tough" boys, of whom there were quite a few, including "Charlie." Finances were difficult, as usual. He made frequent trips to Waco. He attended the teachers' institutes held over the county at times, and became well acquainted in the various towns and villages. But the tedium and boredom of living in a small rural

village and the desire to find something better were beginning to make him restless again. While in Axtell he tried to supplement his income by going into the lumber business, but lack of capital and a tricky partner whom he trusted too well, caused this venture to fail.<sup>1</sup>

He now conceived the idea of running for public office, and in 1898 announced his candidacy for the post of County Superintendent of Schools. At the close of school in June of that year, or possibly even before the close, he submitted his resignation as Principal of Axtell Academy, and moved the family to Waco, where they found a home at 604 Earl Street, East Waco. The Axtell era was at an end.

The Waco Interlude.- J. M. Dunn carried on a vigorous campaign for the post he sought, traveling over most of the McLennan County by buggy from Waco as a center. The Spanish-American War was being fought, and added to the excitement of the times. The peace of the Dunn family was to be shattered, however, by a domestic event that for them overshadowed the war. Mary Lucretia had been allowed to return from Sulphur Springs and to join the family in Waco. The danger from "Charlie" Oxford in Axtell was over, and her mother's uneasiness was relieved. In the summer of 1898 there came the shocking disclosure that Mary had eloped with a young man she had recently met in

<sup>1</sup> Reminiscences of J. M. Dunn and some of his daughters have been written by Mr. Ed. Savage, a student at Axtell Institute from 1894 to 1898, and now Postmaster at Axtell. In a letter to Mrs. Lucie Clift Price, dated April 6, 1960, he wrote as follows:

As I remember, your Grandfather ( J. M. Dunn) was quite an expert with the shelally too. He used to open school with 30 minutes song service and read some from the Bible; also have a prayer. . . After the Amen, we would get to work and that shelally was some encouragement to work. Your Grandpa was quite a hand to get something started to interest the parents. One was a Literary Society; meet every Friday night, have a debate one night and a spelling match the next. Proved to be quite a success.

Your Aunt Georgie had some fine young boys to wait on her, but seemed she just couldn't get interested in them. . . Your Aunt Mary was different. She seemed to always be popular with the boys and girls. I got egotistical and brave enough to present myself to your Aunt Georgie as her steady. I got my first lessons where "man proposes and woman disposes." She sent me back to my cotton patch and didn't make any faces while doing it. In the picture of Axtell Academy I sent you, I am standing in the back row, 2nd from right, somewhat squirrel-headed, big-eared, seldom fed, hard-to-fatten-looking kid.

Waco by the name of Oscar Crow. He was related to a fairly well-to-do family, which owned the local steam laundry and other property. They drove to the nearby town of Gatesville, and were married there on July 2, 1898. Mary was only 16 years of age, and this runaway marriage was a severe shock to her parents, especially to her long-suffering mother. Nothing like this had ever occurred in the Dunn or Ballinger families, and it was considered a disgrace, although they had to make the best of it.

The shock of this elopement was followed or perhaps preceded by the defeat of J. M. Dunn in his race for County Superintendent of Schools. He had spent much time and money on the campaign, but all in vain. Many of the people he had thought were his friends had let him down. He was in debt, and had to look for another job. The move to Waco had proven to be a mistake. J. M. Dunn's health was not good, and he did not feel that he could go back to teaching school. Instead he found what he thought was a good business opportunity, which took the family back to Sulphur Springs, probably in late 1898 or early 1899.

Moves and Counter-Moves.— J. M. Dunn had a chance to buy or lease the weekly Sulphur Springs Gazette and return to his former vocation, the publishing business. He also added a daily paper, the Evening News, and ran a job printing office in conjunction with these publications. The new venture proved to be neither lucrative nor satisfying. Lacking a reserve of capital the business had to be operated on a hand-to-mouth basis. Often when the printers had been paid off and other bills met at the end of each week, the proprietor would have precious little left for himself or family! <sup>1</sup>

On June 5, 1899 he wrote to his son-in-law, W. H. Clift, who was then living in Davis, Indian Territory, with his wife, asking him if he could come to Sulphur Springs to help run the business. He wrote as follows:

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<sup>1</sup>One of the compensations of the newspaper business in those days was the issuance of free passes by the railroads to the publishers. J. M. Dunn and family took quite a few trips on passes in Texas, to Kentucky, and to Colorado. These free passes were subsequently prohibited by state law.

Mr. Scollard, who has been with me for two months, left yesterday. We did very well while he was here, but I could not trust him, and am sure he did not make an even divide. My health is very poor, and I must take a week or two off. I cannot afford to shut down, and ask you to come and help me out. I won't say anything about wages, but will pay all expenses and see that you are satisfied. If you like the business and see that there is good money in it, you may conclude to stay with me. I know you can do what I shall expect of you, and if you can, come at once if only for a week. I may run up to Davis for a few days, if you come down here.

W. H. Clift was changing from one business to another, and was temporarily free, but he had other plans, and did not accept his father-in-law's invitation to go to Sulphur Springs. The struggle to keep the publishing business going continued for another year. William Edward got his first introduction to the printing business during this time. He was a carrier boy for the Evening News, and together with another boy covered the entire residential area of Sulphur Springs, making deliveries on ponyback. Subscription rates were 10 cents per week, which was collected by the carriers. The 300 or 400 subscribers, plus advertising revenues, constituted the cash income of the two newspapers. It was not enough to cover expenses and leave a profit.

During this second stay in Sulphur Springs, the Dunn family lived on Gilmer Street, near the "Branch" and a block away from the local steam laundry. Georgie got a job of "clerking" in a local drygoods store, and met at this time the man she was to marry many years later. William Edward attended Eastman College, at least part of the time. On Saturdays and during the summers he worked as bus boy or waiter in the town's only chile con carne "parlor", which was owned by a man named "Mr. Gilley." James Lewis had not yet started to school.

J. M. Dunn decided to give up the publishing business and go back to teaching school. In the fall of 1900 he had an offer as Principal of the community school in Riesel, a town of some 800 population about 20 miles southeast of Waco. He had often visited here while living in Axtell, and his daughter, Maggie Ellen, had taught elocution there before her marriage. Once more the family packed their household effects for the 180-mile train trip to McLennan County. The Gazette enterprise was turned over to new proprietors.

The Riesel Interlude.- The J. M. Dunn family remained in Riesel for only one school year, 1900-1901. It was a year marked by further bereavement. On February 28, 1901 Mary Dunn Crow's first and only child was born in Waco, a daughter also named Mary for her mother. Complications and infection developed, and the young mother died four days later, on March 3, 1901. The baby was taken to Riesel by the grieving maternal grandmother, who was now 51 years old and not in very good health herself. A letter from "Aunt Nannie" Neville in Paris to Maggie Dunn Clift, who had gone to Waco for the funeral, comments on this untimely loss (March 11, 1901):

I received your letter Friday containing the sad particulars of Mary's illness. It seems doubly sad for the mother to be taken and the baby left. It will be a great care to your mother at her age and not in very good health either, to have the care of a little baby, but of course she will want to keep it. Poor Mary, how sad it seems to die so young and happy . . . I pray that your mother will have strength given her for the new care. It seems a foolish question to ask, but it is, was the Doctor considered good. Of course, they wouldn't have had him if they hadn't thought so, but he must have been utterly unconscious of Mary's condition. I expect, though, when the trouble goes to the brain that no Dr. can do anything. But it is God's will and we can only submit.

The little baby was cared for in Riesel for several weeks, but at the insistent urging of Mrs. Frank Crow, an aunt by marriage of Oscar Crow's, was eventually turned over to her for adoption. For several years Lucie Dunn's life was saddened because Little Mary was not allowed to know about her Dunn grandmother and relatives, due to the fact that Mrs. Crow was anxious for the baby to regard herself as the true mother. She finally relented, and thus Mary came to know her mother's people. She later grew to be very fond of her grandfather, J. M. Dunn.

Riesel was predominantly a German-American town, and German was freely spoken. It had a worldly, almost continental atmosphere, which was not congenial for the Dunn family with their strict Methodist background. "Beer busts" on Sunday were a common diversion of the German-speaking citizens and seemed a desecration of the holy day. It was not a particularly suitable environment for the two growing boys, William Edward and James Lewis. Here the former continued his printing

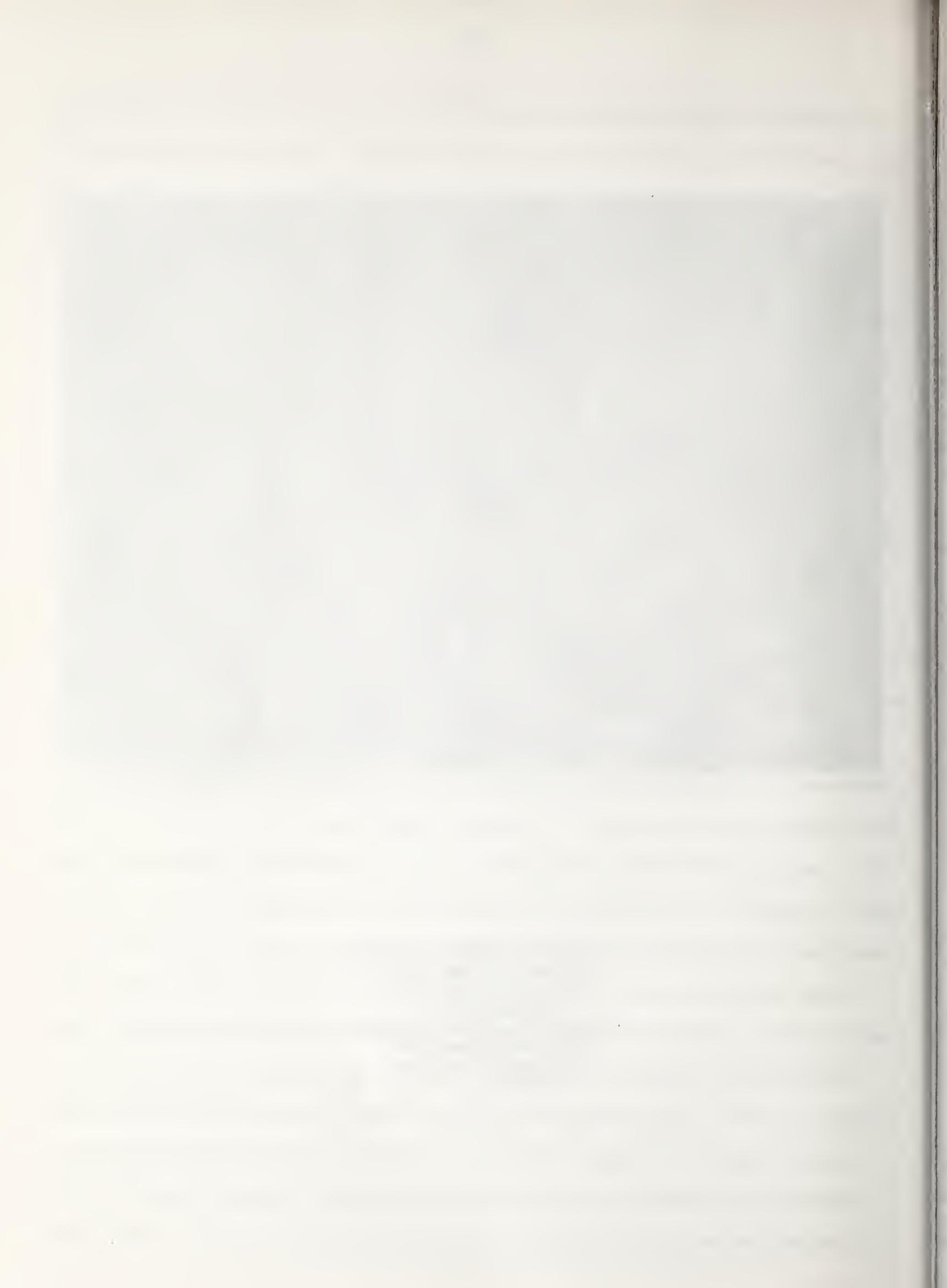
experience by working at odd times for the Riesel Rustler, which was printed on an oldfashioned hand press. Here he learned a few German words and phrases, and first tasted beer. James Lewis started to school in Riesel for the first time, entering the second grade. During a morning recess he swallowed a lemon seed, and ran home crying that he was going to have appendicitis.

The lure of Sulphur Springs was still strong, and when J. M. Dunn had an opportunity to return there as Principal of the East End public school, Lucie Dunn and her two sons packed up the furniture once more, and the family moved back to the old home in the early summer of 1901. With the aid of the local Loan and Building Association, one of the first founded in Texas, they obtained a loan of \$700 on Dec. 3, 1901, and they built a home on the lot which they owned at 720 College Street. It was during this stay in Sulphur Springs that William Edward visited his sister, Mrs. Maggie Dunn Clift, whose husband had gone into the grocery business in Comanche, Indian Territory, and had witnessed the memorable drawing of lots in Lawton on August 5, 1901, traveling in a covered wagon to the site of that land rush. He was then 13 years old.

The First Move to Austin.— J. M. Dunn was growing more and more discontented with teaching. A group photograph of pupils of the East End School taken about 1902 shows that he looked tired and old, although then only 52 years of age. It is therefore not surprising that after one year at that school, he decided to take a position that had been offered him as Chief of the Stamp Division in the State Comptroller's Office in Austin. Thus in the summer or fall of 1902 the family pulled up stakes once more, and moved to the capital of the State, thus beginning a broader and more cosmopolitan outlook. They rented a house at 1504 Congress Avenue, only two blocks from the State Capitol where he worked. Both boys entered the Austin public schools. Georgie was the only daughter now left at home. This first stay in Austin was brief. Within a year a new Comptroller came into office, and J. M. Dunn learned that he held a political job which was desired by



East End Public School  
Sulphur Springs, Texas  
J. M. Dunn, Principal  
(circa 1901)  
Wm. E. Dunn is 3rd from  
left in bottom row  
J.M. Dunn in center  
top row



some one with more influence than he had. His thoughts turned to Sulphur Springs once more, where the family now had a house of their own to live in.

The Fourth Stay in Sulphur Springs.— Just when the family moved back to Sulphur Springs is not clear, but in 1903 they were living again in their home on College Street. This was at times the most difficult period, financially, that they had yet experienced. Whether J. M. Dunn had wanted to get back to teaching again, or had tried, is not known. He seems to have had no steady or fixed employment for a while. He tried out several lines of endeavor, especially selling life insurance, books, and patent rights. He was often away from home for several weeks at a time, trying hard to make a comeback. His health was still poor.

By this time William Edward was 15 years of age, old enough to add to the family income. He found part-time employment as a printer's "devil" with the newspaper his own father had once published, the Sulphur Springs Gazette, now under new ownership (Avinger & McDaniels). He was a rapid typesetter, and often earned as much as \$4 or \$5 a week working odd hours when he was not in school. His earnings were sufficient to enable his frugal mother to "get by" during the lean days of this period. Daughter Georgie was away from home part of the time working as a clerk. She had become entirely self-supporting. It was during this period that William Edward figured in a tragedy that was grievously reminiscent of the loss of his own brother, Ernest, in 1884. While swimming with two companions, one of them, named Johnny Cummings, was drowned despite all efforts to save him. This coincidence brought back afresh Mack and Lucie Dunn's grief over their own son almost twenty years before, and put a new damper on swimming in the Dunn family.

The old adage that "It is always darkest before dawn" proved true for J. M. Dunn. After two years of hard endeavor to make a livelihood outside of the teaching profession, he received an offer in the spring of 1905 to become Principal of the Texas State Institute for the Blind in Austin. An old friend, Mr. H. L. Piner, whom he had taught back in Honey Grove days, was Superintendent of that institution,

and when the position of principal became vacant through the sudden death of the incumbent, he offered it to his old teacher, J. M. Dunn.

The local Sulphur Springs paper had this item about the appointment:

Prof. J. M. Dunn has been appointed principal of the Blind Institute at Austin. The salary is \$2000 per year. We rejoice to see him climbing the golden ladder.

The Austin Statesman reported the appointment as follows:

Professor J. M. Dunn of Sulphur Springs, Texas, has been appointed principal of the State Blind Institute by Superintendent Piner of that institution. Professor Dunn at once assumed his duties. He succeeds the late W. R. Leonard, whose sudden death occurred a few days ago. Professor Dunn is a man of wide experience, having been a teacher in the schools of Texas for the past 25 years. He is said to be eminently qualified for his new duties. Dr. Piner said yesterday that he had a number of applications for the position, but he selected Professor Dunn after mature consideration of the matter. The choice of Prof. Dunn was wise and Supt. Piner displayed excellent judgment when he selected him. No man in Texas is better fitted for the place, nor could a more honorable and high-minded gentleman be found anywhere.

At long last the fortunes of the J. M. Dunn family had taken a turn for the better. A new and broader era was to begin for the parents and the three children who were still at home.

The Second Austin Era.—J. M. Dunn preceded his family to Austin when he took over the Blind Institute job. On May 18, 1905 he wrote his daughter, Maggie Clift, then living in Hastings, Oklahoma, as follows:

. . . Our school closes on June 8th. I have a fine boarding place, but unfortunately I have had but little appetite for some weeks. I do not see how I can stay in Austin, unless the folks move down. Your mother talks as if she does not want to move, and I shall not insist on it. I may go back into the insurance business this summer, though this work is much easier on me. Affectionately, Papa. (This letter was written on Blind Institute stationery.)

One can hardly blame Lucie Dunn for not wanting to make another move, but she changed her mind, and she and the boys were in Austin in time for the opening of the school year. They lived first in a house near the Blind Institute, which was then on Red River Street, but later moved to another one on the corner of 18th and Brazos, 112 East 18th Street. Georgie was not at home part of this time, as she had a position in Dublin, Texas, but was getting tired of working. William Edward had attended High School during the former stay in Austin and also in Sulphur Springs, but had not graduated from either school. As he had the equivalent of ten grades of education.

however, he decided to take the entrance examinations for the University of Texas in Austin. In spite of so many changes of schools and interruptions in his early education, he was able to pass these examinations with two or three "conditions" which he later easily satisfied. He enrolled in the freshman class at the University in September, 1905. James Lewis entered the Bickler public school in Austin. The J. M. Dunn family had entered upon a life of greater opportunity than they had hitherto envisioned.

Death of Maggie Dunn Clift.- J. M. Dunn was to continue as Principal of the Blind Institute for seven years. Many family events took place during this period, both happy and sad ones. In June, 1906 Maggie Dunn Clift went to Austin for treatment of her eyes, and underwent an operation on one eye. She was very weak and never regained her health. She died in Hastings, Oklahoma on April 7, 1907. By a strange mistake Lucie Dunn entered her death in the family Bible as of April 7, 1906, perhaps several years later. Maggie's two children, Lucie and Henry, went to Austin to live with their grandparents, and their "Aunt Georgie" practically took the place of their mother for many years. Henry later went back to Oklahoma to live with his father, while Lucie remained with her grandparents in Austin. After graduating from Austin High School she attended Martha Washington College, a girls finishing school in Abingdon, Virginia. She then entered the University of Texas where she was a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority. After two years there, her father wanted he to go to the University of Missouri, where she obtained her B. A. degree in 1922. Henry attended Virginia Military Institute for one year, and then was graduated from the University of Oklahoma in 1925. As Lucie lived with the J. M. Dunn family for many years before she was married, she was always more like a daughter and sister than a granddaughter and niece. She was especially close to her grandfather, both on her own account and because of his great affection for her mother, Maggie Dunn Clift.

The following obituary of Maggie Dunn Clift appeared in an unidentified Oklahoma newspaper, presumably in Hastings, Okla., where she died and was buried:

Maggie E. (Dunn) Clift was born in Denison, Texas, Feb. 24, 1876. She was the daughter of J. M. and Lucie Dunn. Her father has for more than thirty years been a teacher in Texas, and was for ten years connected with the Central College at Sulphur Springs, Texas, as Professor and President, and it was at this institution that Maggie was educated. She was always a dutiful, obedient child, and while full of life was exceedingly dignified and self-possessed. She was converted and joined the Methodist Church south at the age of ten. From early childhood she was religiously inclined, and after uniting with the church, was a devoted Christian. It gave her great concern and pain to see a member of the church leading a wordly and inconsistent life.

She paid considerable attention to the study and practice of elocution and taught this art for some years both before and after leaving school. It was while teaching that she met W. H. Clift, to whom she was married on November 30, 1897. Rarely has there been a happier marriage and married life than theirs. Devoted to each other, sharing in an unusual degree each other's confidence, their home was a paradise on earth. Two children blessed their union; a girl (now) in her seventh year and a boy almost four. Her life was in the fullest sense devoted to her husband and children. . . . She was never known to utter a word that could be construed into unkindness and uncharitableness toward those of a different faith. During the last two years of her life she was a great sufferer, and her last illness was almost nine weeks in duration, yet she bore it with all Christian fortitude, and by divine grace was able to meet the last enemy without fear and without regret, save for leaving behind her loved ones. A good woman she lived, a good woman she died, and her dear ones know where to find her.

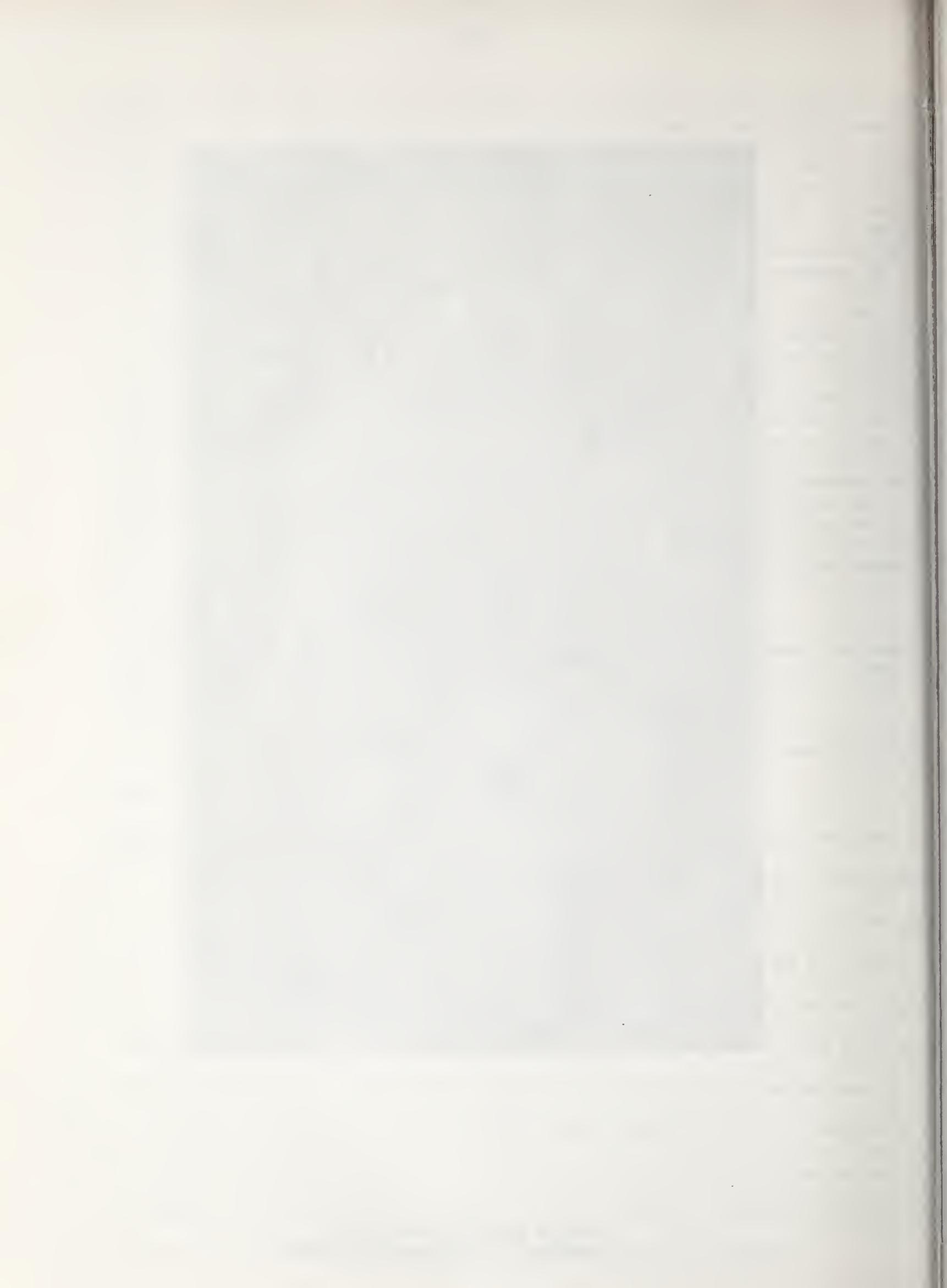
There are many things hard to understand in this life, and the Savior recognized this when he said to his disciples, "What I do, thou knowest not now; but ye shall know hereafter." Happy for us if when reason's vision gets dim, faith can take us on over the rough and dark places in life, and we can look up through our tears and say, "Father, thou knowest."

Maggie's death left only four out of the family of ten children. Mortality had indeed taken a heavy toll.

Marriage of Georgie McMurry Dunn.— In October, 1911 Georgie McMurry Dunn was married to James Pollard Smith, whom she had met in Sulphur Springs many years before. She was 31 years of age, and had always sacrificed her personal happiness for the good of her family. Everyone was therefore glad that at last she was to have a chance to live her own life. She continued even after marriage to be the comfort and mainstay of her parents and of the other members of the family in case of need. And there were to be many emergencies where she and her husband subordinated their own desires to the welfare of others. They first lived in Plainview and Lockney, Texas, but were soon to return to Austin, where they remained for several years until the old home was broken up. Her brother, William Edward, wrote her a rather "flippant" letter of congratulations from New York City on November 2, 1911, reading in part as follows:



Georgie McMurry Dunn Smith  
(March 15, 1881-March 20, 1942)



My dear old Sister Georgie: When I read that you were to be married Saturday, and that, therefore, by the time I was reading it, you were already married, I just had to rub my eyes and read it again and again. And even then I couldn't realize it--I can't even yet. I guess I won't be able to realize it until I get home and find you gone for good. It makes me feel sad and "weepy-like" when I get to thinking about your being gone from home forever, but still at the same time I am glad for your sake, because I know you followed, for one time, your own personal desire for happiness--and you deserve so much to be happy. In this connection (and I am using this semi-flippant style to keep my letter from becoming too mournful), let me express my most sincere and devout wishes for the happiness of my dear sister and of my new brother-in-law, and may nothing ever occur to mar your felicity. . . Now, Georgie, don't think that just because you are married, you have sort of left the family, and don't forget your buddie up here in New York. Perhaps when I address you as "Mrs. J. P." a few times and get a few letters from Plainview, I will realize that you are married. Just now, though, it seems like a dream. With a kiss for the bride and a glad hand to the groom, I am, your loving brother, "Brother."

The marriage of Georgie left only one girl at the J. M. Dunn home--Granddaughter Lucie Clift, who was to spend much time with her aunt in Plainview. Changes in the family were to come thick and fast.

Other Changes. - William Edward Dunn had left home after his graduation from the University of Texas in June, 1909, to spend four years in graduate studies at Stanford University (1909-1911) and Columbia University in New York City (1911-1913). During his junior year in the University of Texas, he worked briefly as a bookkeeper in the First National Bank of Sulphur Springs, where his brother-in-law, Marvin B. Sherwood, was cashier. His parents were not reconciled to his leaving off his education and he returned to Austin and graduated with the class of '09. Fortunately his father's finances during this period enabled him to continue his studies at Stanford and Columbia, leading to the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.). He had also been fortunate to become a disciple of the distinguished scholar, Herbert Eugene Bolton, who had taken the young man with him to Mexico City to assist in research work on the early history of the Spanish Southwest, and he had made a number of trips to Mexico, where he perfected his knowledge of the Spanish language. He was to return to Austin in the fall of 1913 as Instructor in History, in the University of Texas, greatly to his parent's satisfaction.

James Lewis Dunn, the younger son, had graduated from Austin High School, and entered the University of Texas in 1913. He had inherited his father's talent for singing, had a promising voice, and was prominent in local choir and glee club work. "Lewy" was to carry on for many years while his brother was away from home in school or abroad. He accompanied his brother to Saltillo, Mexico, in the summer of 1912 to assist in copying old Spanish documents relating to the history of Texas. He was to hold down the fort when his brother, William Edward, went to Spain to continue documentary research in the summer of 1914 and during the academic year of 1915-16.

J. M. Dunn Leaves the Blind Institute.— J. M. Dunn's tenure as Principal of the Texas School for the Blind terminated in 1912 when Governor Colquitt took office. The position became a plum in the political patronage system of Texas, and was given to a supporter of the new Governor. J. M. Dunn entered the real estate and life insurance business in Austin, in which he continued for a number of years. He had been one of the pioneer life insurance men in Texas, having been for many years a special representative of the Prudential Life Insurance Company, for which he had worked during summer vacations. He liked to recall that he had put the first rate book in the hip pocket of Mr. J. P. Greenwood, the organizer and head of the Great Southern Life Insurance Company, who remained his close friend and admirer throughout their lives. Results in the new business endeavor were not always uniform; he made considerable money at times and then had lean periods. His oldest son, however, was now able to supplement the family income in times of need.

The family lived at several places in Austin after 1912. In 1913 they were at 604 West 6th Street, fixed by the following entry in William Edward Dunn's "diary", which read: "September 16, 1913: I am in Austin again, domiciled in our new house at 604 West 6th Street." Another entry dated September 21, 1915, read: "I reached Austin this morning and came out to our new place, 2006 Whitis, and woke everybody up." In 1916 William Edward bought a house at 804 West 22nd Street for \$5,000, paying \$500 in cash, trading in some lots he owned valued at \$1300, and giving two promissory notes for the balance, payable in five years. The entry in his diary

read: "I think it will be both a good home and a good investment. We shall move in the middle of next week." On October 13: "We have moved from 2006 Whitis to the new home. We already have things straightened out to a considerable degree. We are all well pleased with the place, and find it very comfortable and convenient. I have bought a new gas range and will probably have to invest in other articles." All of these changes are important as background for understanding events in the Dunn family during the remainder of the decade.

Lucie Dunn's Illness and Death.- In late 1912 or early 1913 Lucie Dunn awoke one morning to find her left side semi-paralyzed, and it was found that she had suffered a stroke. For several weeks she could barely speak and was confined to bed. She slowly improved, however, but was to be a semi-invalid the rest of her life. On January 25, 1913 she wrote a brief note to her son William Edward, who was still in New York City at Columbia University. The contents of this note showed the hiatus in her thinking and writing:

My dear Boy: I was delighted that you (were offered) a position in Columbia University, but I hope you (can) get nearer home. I hope we can all (be) together once more. Lewy is so anxious to be home once more. I don't know that I can keep house any more, but I am certainly anxious to. Your papa has been off, but he hasn't done any business. (On the back of her letter J. M. Dunn wrote the message that was already mentioned concerning their marriage in Stanford "just 43 years ago today." (See Supra, page 74.)

Again Daughter Georgie had come to the rescue. For a while, however, the care of the Dunn household was taken over by Mrs. Ida Dunn, of Houston, Texas. She was the widow of Charles A. Dunn, son of William Franklin Dunn, brother of J. M. Dunn, of Kentucky. She came when the family was living at 604 West 6th Street, and remained for a while when they were at 2006 Whitis Avenue. Her daughter, Mary Ellen, attended the University. When "Cousin Ida" had to return to Houston, the J. P. Smiths moved to Austin.

Although out of chronological order, mention should be made of the San Leon episode in Lucie Dunn's final years. Her husband had great faith in a real estate development in Galveston County known as the "San Leon Farm Home Tracts." San Leon,

now Dickinson, Texas, was located near a high promontory jutting out into Galveston Bay. He sold many tracts of land to his friends and acquaintances, and plowed back most of his commissions into his own investments there. For a time after his replacement as Principal of the Blind Institute, he and his wife, Lucie, lived at the commodious and inspiring resort hotel built by the development company as a magnet for prospective clients. For once in her life Lucie Dunn could live in comfort, free from any household duties or cares. But she was not content until they returned to Austin to their own home, even though its location was changed from time to time.

William Edward Dunn's diary, or journal, recorded the gradual decline of his mother after he had returned from a year's absence in Spain and was again teaching at the University of Texas. The family was living at the new home, 804 West 22nd Street:

March 8, 1917: We have secured a new doctor for mother, Dr. J. W. McLaughlin. He made his first visit last night. Friday, April 6: We have changed back to Dr. Gorton again for mother. She is doing very little good, and continues in a weak condition. Friday, April 13: A fateful day. Mamma died this morning at 1:15 a.m. We are all broken up. She gradually got weaker and weaker, and finally slipped almost insensibly into the great beyond. She has been sick and practically confined to bed since about the middle of January. She has suffered much, but it is hard to let her go. Her love for her children held her here to the last possible moment. We leave tonight for Sulphur Springs, where interment will take place tomorrow afternoon. All of us will go except J. P. April 16: Lewy, Lucie and I returned from Sulphur Springs last night. Papa and Georgie will stay there a few days. It is lonesome and sad beyond words in the house. I can't get down to work, although I realize I must.

Lucie Dunn would have been 67 years old on April 29, 1917. All four of her surviving children and her granddaughter, Lucie Clift, were at her bedside when she passed away. In Sulphur Springs, where she was buried, she lay near her three children whom she had lost so many years before. The following obituary appeared in the Sulphur Springs Gazette:

Mrs. Lucy Dunn died at her home in Austin Friday morning at 1 o'clock at the age of 67 years. The remains arrived in Sulphur Springs Saturday morning at 11:45 o'clock on the M. K. & T., and were met by a large concourse of sorrowing friends. The burial service was held at the City Cemetery, where Rev. W. D. Thompson feelingly told of the life and good works of this noble woman.

Up to twelve years ago Mrs. Dunn resided in this city and her life work is still fresh in the minds of her many friends here. A devoted wife, a loving mother, a true friend, and a good Christian character, truly the noblest handiwork of God. Her career has ever been signalized with deeds of kindness and consideration for those with whom she came in contact. No greater satisfaction can come to loved ones left than to know that as a mother, wife and friend she represented in every-day life the true conception of these essentials. While the chalice of life is broken, yet a sacred memory is left as heritage that time and eternity alone can efface.

She is survived by a husband, who, too, is getting along in the evening of life, and four children, as follows: Mrs. M. B. Sherwood of this city, and Mrs. Pollard Smith, and W. E. and J. Lewey Dunn of Austin, and a granddaughter, Miss Lucy Clift, who has resided with Mr. and Mrs. Dunn all her life. All were present to attend the funeral. Also a brother, J. L. Ballinger, of Honey Grove, was here to the funeral.

To these loved ones, who have been reared under the guiding influence of this good woman, and in turn, have cheered her as the evening shadows fell, the Gazette extends sincere condolence (edition of April 15, 1917).

Aftermath of Lucie Dunn's Death.— It took a long while for the dwindling Dunn family in Austin to recover from this great loss. Georgie Dunn Smith and her husband continued for some time to hold the old home together, but the war was on, and the boys were soon gone. William Edward completed his doctoral dissertation after his mother's death, and received his Ph. D. degree from Columbia University, New York City, in June, 1917. Shortly thereafter he entered the U. S. Naval Intelligence Service, and was on duty in various Latin American countries until February, 1919, while on leave of absence from the University. He returned to his teaching position in the fall of 1919, but soon resigned to accept the position of Latin American editor of the New York Sun-Herald. He married Miss Linda Tays, of Berkeley, California and San Blas, México on February 9, 1920, and soon afterwards they began a series of assignments in South and Central American countries that lasted until 1950, with several return sojourns in the United States.

James Lewis Dunn enlisted in the U. S. Army after his mother's death, and attended the officers' training camp at Leon Springs, Texas, beginning in May, 1917. He was one of the "First Campers" on the Texas-Mexico border in the spring of 1917. He lacked only a few credits of graduating from the University of Texas

when the war interrupted his studies. On July 22, 1917 he was married in San Antonio to Miss Flora Reese of Austin, whom he had met while both were attending the University of Texas. Georgie Dunn Smith and her husband remained in Austin until after the war was over, and returned in July, 1919 to Plainview, where her husband went into business and later bought a farm. Now indeed the J. M. Dunn family was broken up, never to be reunited. J. M. Dunn was in his late sixties. His career, however, was by no means at an end.

J. M. Dunn Returns to the Blind Institute.- In 1919-1920 J. M. Dunn returned to the State School for the Blind, teaching several classes and serving as monitor for the boys' dormitory, where he also lived after his son's house on West 22nd Street was sold. He never lost his zest for travel and visits to relatives and friends. A joint letter to his four living children, dated April 4, 1920 and written on the official stationery of the School for the Blind, told of his activities at that time:

Mrs. Annie Sherwood  
 Mrs. Georgie Smith  
 Mr. W. E. Dunn  
 Mr. J. L. Dunn:

Austin, Texas, April 4, 1920

My Dear Children:- I fancy that you would all like to hear how the old father is getting along, and as it would take so much time and energy to write you each a separate letter, I am going to conserve both by writing you a family letter. It is now almost five o'clock, and I have had a right busy day. (He had addressed a Y.M.C.A.-Y.W.C.A. meeting on ten minutes' notice, substituting for a speaker who did not show up. He then attended services at the Tenth Street Methodist Church, went by the "old home" at 806 West 22nd Street, and then attended religious services at 3 o'clock in the Blind Institute.) He had been away on a week's trip to Itasca, Fort Worth, Dallas, and Waco. He visited overnight in Dallas with the Reverend W. D. Bradfield, a Methodist minister, and had the following to say about that:

He (Dr. Bradfield) rather embarrassed me Saturday morning, when he introduced me to two young ladies, and said: "I want you to meet Prof. Dunn of Austin. He was the first teacher I ever had, but he was my first and greatest teacher of all I ever had." Was not that enough to make me blush? (He had taught Dr. Bradfield in Daingerfield.)

He also told of his visit to Waco, where he visited with his granddaughter, Mary Crow Hoeltzel. He said: "Mary was just as sweet to me as she could be. She

asked about all of you, and seemed to be interested in my answers. I wish you would all write to her, for she is of our own family and blood, and I loved her mother very dearly." He then went on to give other details of his trip:

I suppose I should have extended my trip, and stayed away longer than a week, but I was glad to get back, and hope I may be able to finish out the session. I feel rested, but otherwise no better. I caught fresh cold in Fort Worth, and it is still hanging on. I stayed all night at 806 West 22nd sleeping in Lucie's bed, and she slept with Cousin Annie (Dunn). I wanted to come out to the school last night, but one of the boys told me over the phone that Mr. Chadwick, who had been substituting for me, would be here, so I had no place to sleep. . . . The boys had planned to meet me when I came, put me in a chair and carry me to my room. I fear all this rigmarole will sound childish and uninteresting to some of you, but you must remember that I have about reached my second childhood, and can not be expected to act and talk other than as a child.

I have felt unusually lonely today, and want to be with you all, or at least with one of you. Just because I have not included any but you four does not mean that this letter does not take in Marvin (Sherwood), J. P. (Smith), Flora (Dunn) and Linda (Dunn), for I love them each and all, because they are part and parcel of us, and have a warm place in my heart. . . .

I certainly appreciate your concern for me, but I must keep on working if possible. Our school will close on June 1st, and it won't take long for that time to roll around, and then I shall kick up my heels and go somewhere.

Lucie went down to Brenham today to spend a day with a friend there, whose name I do not remember. She passed in everything last term, but did not make an A or B. Cousin Annie is well, and is a great comfort to me. She does not expect to return to Texas next year, but will go to North Carolina, she thinks. Love to each of you and all of you, and to your husbands, wives, and children.

Your affectionate father, J.M.D.

(This letter was typewritten, and had very few, even minor, mistakes.)

Various Activities and Trips.— This was the last session during which he taught and lived in the School for the Blind, but it was not to be his last connection with that institution. In 1921 J. M. Dunn filled a Methodist pulpit for a few months in Medina, Bandera County, Texas. He began to make extended stays with his children, and with his granddaughter, Mrs. Lucie Clift Price, who had married in 1923 and lived in Bonham and other towns. In the fall of 1923 he visited his brother and sister and other relatives in Kentucky, continuing on to Washington, D. C., where he stayed for several months (October, 1923 to March, 1924) with his son William Edward, and family who had returned from a three-years residence in Lima, Peru. On October 3, 1923, he wrote from Washington, D. C. to his daughter, Mrs. Georgie Dunn Smith, then living in Plainview, and told her of his trip to Kentucky. An extract follows:

Dear Georgie:- I have had a whole day to rest, and want to communicate some of the particulars of my visit to Kentucky and Knoxville, leaving Washington for a future occasion. As I said in my post cards, I found Edward and Linda quite well.

I spent all the time in Kentucky in Marion County, except for a two days' visit to Moreland, and one day at Stanford on my way to Knoxville. I stayed in Lebanon every night with my brother (Georgie Alrie Dunn). . . I went to Moreland on Friday. . . I called up Millersburg and persuaded Aunt Ellen (Dunn Pruitt) to join them at Lexington, and come with them. She did so, and then went with me to Lebanon and to Bradfordsville. . . I spent the night with Edith (Wilson), and took two meals at Don's (Don V. Drye). . . I came up to Stanford Thursday morning, and found the few relatives there all well. . .

I got to Knoxville Friday afternoon at 5 o'clock, was met at the station by Louise and Francis (Phillips), and spent almost three days with them. . . Everyone asked many questions about my family and especially about you and Lucie, the only ones any of them have seen. . . I took a Pullman from Bristol to Washington, knowing that Eddie would fuss with me if I didn't, but I hated to pay o - \$4.50 for one night's lodging, when I knew I would not sleep more than an hour or so. . . Lucie's letter caught me at Knoxville, but Lewy's has not found me yet. Perhaps it is because it never made a start. . . The many sights I hope to see here will not satisfy me unless I hear frequently from you. While my body is in Washington, most of my waking thoughts will be with you dear ones in Texas. The Lord bless you all. With love and affection, I am, J. M. Dunn.

Election to the Texas State Legislature.- In 1925 J. M. Dunn made his home for several months with his daughter, Mrs. Marvin B. Sherwood, in Sulphur Springs. While there he was elected as a member of the 39th Texas State Legislature, serving as flotorial representative from Hopkins and Delta Counties (1925-26). He did not stand for re-election. His photograph appears in one of the large framed pictures of the members of the 39th session in the State Capitol in Austin.

On August 10, 1925, J. M. Dunn wrote his son William Edward, who was then living in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, where the latter was serving with the U. S. Occupation Forces as Director General of Internal Revenue. He wrote that he had been offered the position of Field Agent for the Texas State School for the Blind, but had not taken it because the Attorney- General had ruled that he was not eligible for the appointment and because the law creating the position had been passed by the Legislature of which J. M. Dunn was a member. "I think Mr. Brown, the Superintendent, was more disappointed than I," he wrote. After his term in the Legislature expired, however, he did receive this appointment, and was to hold it at the time of his death.

Trip to Haiti. - In the autumn of 1925 J. M. Dunn visited his son, William Edward, and family in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. He took the Lykes Brothers Steamship Line from Galveston to Port-au-Prince and back. His son, James Lewis, then living in Houston, saw him safely off at Galveston, and remarked that, although this was the first time his father had ever taken a trip outside the United States, he was as calm and collected as if it were an everyday event. J. M. Dunn stayed several weeks with his son's family, spending the 1925 Christmas season with them. Several snapshots taken at that time show him with his son, daughter-in-law, Linda, and his one and one-half years old granddaughter, Eugenia Ballinger Dunn. He took part in the sophisticated and somewhat hectic social life of Port-au-Prince characteristic of the Occupation, and impressed everyone with his congeniality and good spirits at the age of 75. He joined in "barber shop" singing, but did not partake of the spirituous liquors that flowed freely at various parties and receptions, although he did not offer any objection to drinking on the part of others.

Appointment as Field Agent for the Blind. - When J. M. Dunn returned to Texas early in 1926, he accepted the position of Field Agent for the Blind for which he was now eligible. His job was to travel about the State and locate blind children who should attend the School in Austin. He once organized a glee club of blind singers, and toured the State with them, giving recitations as his own part of the entertainment. He could still charm an audience with his inimitable stories, such as "Would That I Were a Little Boy or Girl Again," "Sonny's Christening," and many others. He still had an excellent memory for these old recitations, and could run the gamut from pathos to humor. He continued these activities in spite of the fact that his health was not good and was steadily deteriorating. (Note: He recited from his favorite books, "Sonny, A Christmas Guest," by Ruth McEnery Stuart, 1894; "The Confessions of a Daddy," by Ellis Parker Butler, 1907; Burdette, Irish Dialect Recitations and Readings," copyright 1883.)

The Last Illness and Death of J. M. Dunn. - Letters written by J. M. Dunn to his son, William Edward, in November, 1927 foreshadowed his approaching end. His son and family had returned from Haiti to accept a lucrative position in the foreign bond business in New York City. His son, James Lewis Dunn, was engaged in the investment banking business in Houston, and was also doing well. A letter of November 13 said:

"I attended the North Texas Conference in Dallas week before last, came to Sulphur Springs on Saturday, and stayed until Wednesday, when I went back to East Texas as far as Texarkana, and came here (Paris, Texas) Friday afternoon. I shall go back to Sulphur Springs tomorrow, and from there to Wichita Falls to attend the State Baptist Convention. I haven't found a single blind child on this last trip. . . I am not very well, have had rheumatism in addition to my bladder trouble, and the latter keeps me from getting more than two or three hours sleep at a time. . . Lucie and the baby have just come home from the hospital and she cried because she was so happy to get home. . . Write me at Austin. Lots of love to you and Eugenia. Lovingly, Father Dunn (This letter was addressed to his daughter-in-law, Mrs. Linda Dunn, as her husband was absent on a business trip to South America.)<sup>1</sup> (Note on page 111-a)

On November 26, 1927 he addressed a letter to his son, William Edward, who was on a business trip to South America. It was typewritten from Sulphur Springs and read in part as follows:

Dear Son:- I got your postal and letter here yesterday upon my arrival from Austin. I was sure you had written me. . . I am addressing this to Barranquilla (Colombia) as I am sure it would not reach you in Lima (Peru). Well, Mary Evelyn (Sherwood) was married about two hours ago, and left with all of the Dallas guests, of whom there were a goodly number, most of them from the insurance office where the groom, Eugene Vernon, is employed. There were some fifty or sixty guests in all. The Sherwood family were all present, except Murrie and family. . . The ceremony, performed by the bride's grandfather (J. M. Dunn himself) conformed mainly to the ritual of the Methodist Church, and he was profusely complimented because of its rendition. . .

I have been circulating pretty freely in spite of the fact that I have been suffering very much from rheumatism. It has been so bad at times that I could hardly dress myself, my fingers being much affected. My eyes are no better, and reading is largely a thing of the past with me. Unless I get better by Xmas, I may have to give up and retire to private life.

I shall leave here tomorrow or Monday, stop a day in Dallas, then go to Austin for a day or so. About the 1st, I shall go to Houston, Galveston, and Beaumont, and spend about a week, thoroughly canvassing these cities. I have attended three Methodist Conferences, and last week was at the Baptist State Convention in Wichita Falls. I have sent in a number of pupils since I began the work, and the school is pretty full now, especially with boys.

I was glad to learn that Ed Cravens saw you in New York. It made me feel that I had almost seen you myself. . . I hope you get back by Xmas, as Linda must be very lonely without you. I pray for your safe return and for a successful trip. Affectionately, Father.

<sup>1</sup> A strange coincidence reflected the state of J. M. Dunn's health and his perseverance and will power in continuing his activities as Field Agent for the Blind. In October, 1927 Georgie Dunn Smith journeyed from Plainview to Paris, Texas, to be with her niece, Mrs. Lucie Clift Price, on the occasion of the birth of William Henry Price. Her husband, James Pollard Smith, also went to Paris to spend the Christmas season of 1927. While changing trains at Dallas, he saw that an elderly man had fallen down, and rushed forward to help him arise. He then discovered that the man was his own father-in-law, J. M. Dunn, who was also on his way to spend Christmas with his granddaughter, Mrs. Price. This was to be his last Christmas reunion with members of his family.

In January, 1927 J. M. Dunn had lost his only surviving brother, George Alrie Dunn. He told of his brother's death in a letter to his son, William Edward, written from Plainview, Texas, and dated January 19, 1927. He wrote:

"I had a letter from Sister Ellen day before yesterday, telling me about my brother's illness. He died from tetanus, and was sick only three days. He was buried at Danville (Kentucky), where his wife's relatives are all buried. I was thinking this morning of the many cemeteries where the members of my Father's family are buried. Father, Mother, one sister, and one brother lie in the Old Liberty graveyard near Bradfordsville; one brother in Stanford; one sister at Harrodsburg; one in Knoxville; one at Palmira, Simpson County; one at Hustonville. Two other brothers, who died before they were fully grown, are also buried at Old Liberty. I hope to be laid away at Sulphur Springs."

He may have had a presentiment that his days were numbered, as he was now in his 77th year.

The trip to Houston, Galveston, and Beaumont was the last one that J. M. Dunn was to make during his much-traveled lifetime. He could not even finish this one. He continued to feel badly, and remained with his son, James Lewis, in Houston. He was a great believer in homeopathy, and had a favorite "sweet" medicine which he took for his bladder pains. His son continually urged him to see a doctor, but he did not want to do so. Finally, toward the end of February, 1928, his condition became so bad that he was compelled to seek further relief, and went to the office of Doctors Green & Davis for a complete examination. They immediately diagnosed his trouble as a malignant cancer, very far advanced. The course of events is related in a series of letters and telegrams sent by James Lewis Dunn, to his brother, who had returned from his trip to South America and was back at home in Leonia, N. J., where his wife, Linda, had borne their second child, Paxton Tays Dunn, on January 24, 1928. The good old family standby, Mrs. Georgie Dunn Smith, had gone to Leonia to help her sister-in-law through this emergency. On February 23 J. L. Dunn wired his brother as follows:

"Papa operated on today at hospital. Is resting easily with tube in bladder. Doctor gives no encouragement for cure, but thinks there is no immediate danger. Suggest Georgie return if possible to leave without further delay. Lewy."

On February 27 another telegram followed:

W. E. Dunn, c/o Redmond & Co., 33 Pine St., New York, N. Y.

Papa continues to alternate between improvement and weakness. Operation apparently has relieved kidney pressure and drainage is good, but system has already absorbed considerable poison. Is comparatively comfortable though extremely weak. Still smokes. Doctor refuses to estimate outcome and best indication is he has weathered crisis this far. J.P. (Smith) here.

J. L. Dunn

A delayed letter of February 21, which reached W. E. Dunn after the telegram, contained full details of J. M. Dunn's situation. J. L. Dunn wrote:

Dear Brother & Georgie:- I postponed my trip out of town last night, which I told about in a letter written yesterday, because Dr. Mitchell, a very good friend of mine, wanted to talk to me about papa. I had phoned him Sunday afternoon to suggest a doctor to give papa relief, and he had been able to get in touch with Dr. Red. Doctor Red called him back and said he did not like the look of things and thought that it looked like cancer. . . We went down this afternoon, and Dr. Green says there is no doubt in his mind that there is a

malignant cancer, and that it has spread so far that all the organs in that vicinity are affected. . . He thinks there is a bare possibility of the X-ray treatment doing him some good by reducing the gland, but not much. . . It seems a matter of postponement and of temporary relief rather than any permanent cure since the growth is too far along to be stopped. . .

I am thinking this: It strikes me that if things are such that you can leave, Georgie, it would be best for you to come back as soon as you can. If papa does not have long to live, you would want to be back with him anyway. Come to Houston, and then we will see what is the best thing to be done. . . We have not told papa of the seriousness of his condition, as there is no use to bother him with what may be needless worry. If you have any other ideas, wire me upon receipt of this letter.

Your affectionate brother, Lewy.

Still another letter from J. L. Dunn to his brother followed on February 28 of the same general tenor, but slightly more encouraging: It read:

Dear Brother:- I think I am safe in saying that papa is showing definite signs of improvement. Yesterday he was especially brighter, although today he seems to be somewhat weaker than he was yesterday. However, the doctor thought well enough of his condition to have him spend some time in a wheel chair, more to give him encouragement than anything else. I am not sure that it did not overtax his strength. Georgie got in last night at 10:50, but did not go to the hospital until this morning. We enjoyed having a first-hand report of each of you, for it seems to bring us closer together to talk to Georgie who has been with you.

Papa has in the bank, counting this month's pay, around \$175, and I think I shall suggest to him that he carry the expenses for his hospital bill, at least. I shall do this if it will not worry him, although he has given the impression that he would like to keep a balance in the bank. His hospital will cost \$35 a week, and I am sure he will have to be there one more week no matter what may happen. . . He has kept up his spirits fairly well, but there were two or three days that I did not think Georgie would find him alive. . .

Hastily and affectionately,

LEWY

Two letters from Georgie Dunn Smith to her brother in Leonia were more pessimistic. One of March 2, read:

My Dear Brother:- I know you want to know how papa is. He has been suffering a good deal from gas pains today. The Dr. dressed the wound where he was operated and they cleaned out the tube good. His abdomen is still badly swollen--that is caused from gas. His mind has seemed clearer today. He hasn't talked as much at random, and he hasn't seemed to be in quite as much of a stupor. He sleeps a big part of the time. J. P. (Smith) is reading to him now out of the Bible, but I don't know whether he is hearing it or not. He said yesterday he wanted some one to read the Bible to him. . . He has no appetite. His tray hardly looks like it has been touched when he gets through. He has to be fed. He always says he is just eating to please us and "if you are satisfied, I am.". . . I was shocked when I learned he has cancer. The Drs. say he can't get well but they have no idea how long he will linger.

Papa has been saying today that he can't stay here in the hospital---said he wasn't a millionaire. I told him you said he was not to worry--the expenses would be taken care of. . . I am certainly sorry to learn of Linda's Father's illness. Certainly it is strange that both Fathers were operated

on the same day and of the same disease. . . If you don't hear, you will know that things are about the same with Papa. . . Kiss both children for me. I've thought of you lots today. Love to yourself and Linda. Your sister, Georgie.

On March 5 Georgie again reported her father's condition to her brother. She wrote:

Dear Brother;- We have just come to the hospital. It is not quite 8'o'clock. Papa is asleep, so we are on the porch. . . Papa had a bad day yesterday--the worst since I came. He was so restless all day, turning from one side of the bed to the other, throwing his arms and legs about. . . He was talking out of his head. We called up and had them put a special nurse with him for the night. The beds are so small I was afraid he might throw himself off or hurt himself in some way. During the day J. P. and I are here all day, just going out for our meals and leaving the room when we are requested to.

Papa's feet are badly swollen and thought his abdomen, too, was worse yesterday than usual. He was decidedly worse yesterday. Saturday he was so much better, we really thought by the last of this week, if he kept improving, he might be able to leave the hospital. But now things don't look very well. Lewy left last night for Pittsburg. He hated to leave, but felt like he had to. Guess he feels like he has to get some business if he can. He was called home when Papa was operated on, and had been here ever since until last night.

Dr. has just been here. He thinks he is gradually growing worse. His kidneys are not throwing off the poison as they should. He said they are treating him just as if they felt there was a chance, but he feels that the machinery is giving out. . . If you were here likely he wouldn't know you today--he has paid no attention to us this morning. He may rouse later. I hope so. Much love to all.

Your loving sister, Georgie

J. L. Dunn left his father to go on a short business trip. He recounts his departure as follows:

Papa seemed to be in good spirits and sitting on the porch of the Clinic the Sunday afternoon I left to attend a sale of warrants at Pittsburg the next day, and I received a phone call that he had died. I did not go back to Houston, as he was being buried in Sulphur Springs. . . He was smoking a cigar when I last saw him sitting out on the porch of that little clinic. He was doing all right when Georgie left him for the night, but before daylight came he had died. It was a merciful death, for after the tube took care of the pressure, he did not have much more pain.

Such is the story of the last days of J. M Dunn, who would have been 78 years of age on August 25. A telegram to W. E. Dunn in New York carried the sad tidings of his demise. All who were left of the family journeyed to Sulphur Springs, where Mack Dunn was buried beside his dearly beloved, Lucie. They were joined once more back in the old home.

Tributes to the Memory of J. M. Dunn. - Far more revealing than anything his children could write about their father, the various obituaries and letters of his friends pay tribute to his memory. It is difficult to know which to put first. Perhaps the letters written by Mr. H. L. Piner, who as Superintendent of the State Institute for the Blind, appointed him as Principal of that institution, are most eloquent: In a letter to Mrs. Marvin B. Sherwood (Annie Belle Dunn) dated March 8, 1928 and written from his home in Sherman, Texas, he expressed his feeling over the passing of his old school teacher:

Sherman, Texas, March 8, 1928

Mrs. Marvin B. Sherwood, Sulphur Springs, Texas. My dear good Friend: I grieve with you in the loss of one of the best fathers in all the world, and I grieve in the loss of one of the best friends I ever had. He has been my friend for sixty years, ever since I was a little child. And I have seen him tested in many ways and he never failed me.

He was my teacher in dear old Honey Grove long ago. From him I received that personal influence that largely made my character. I owe to him much of the success of life. Even down to the last few years he was so true to me in a great crisis that I consider he was my best friend. I think of him every minute, day and night, even when sleep possesses me. It seems to me I will see him again on earth, for it is impossible to believe that he has gone away from me.

I count him the gentlest of men. He was so kindly to everybody, and so genial in his social life that everybody loved him. I believe he had more friends than any other man I ever knew. He was so clean in his moral character, so pure in social life, so honest and honorable in all his dealings, so lofty in all his ideals that no man could associate with him without being better. My loss is irreparable. No human being can ever fill his place in my heart.

He was here to see us only a few months ago. We talked over many dear old memories and then of the future, and I wonder if he was then peering through the veil that divides the two worlds so narrowly. I thought then that he was not physically able to be traveling alone all over Texas. And I wanted to dissuade him from trying it, but I did not mention it because of fear of making him feel that I was uneasy about him. But he worked and worked right down to the last, and always at something that benefited mankind.

I am lonely without him. He meant more to me than I can describe to you. A friendship without a flaw for sixty years is not often found, but such was ours. I am absolutely sure that it is well with him in the better world. And I expect to meet him when I too shall cross over. I do not know, my dear good friend, how I could comfort you and others who mourn him so, but there should be comfort in knowing that he was a grand character, pure in heart, cultured in mind, useful in life, and triumphant in death. May the good God help us all so to live that we shall one day be reunited with him where sorrow shall be no more. Cordially, your friend, H. L. Piner.

Mr. Piner wrote a much longer letter to a mutual friend, Mr. Hal Duncan, on the same date, in which he said:

In his passing I have lost a friend of sixty years. He was so gentle in all his ways, so genial in all his social life, so cultured in his mental habits, so clean socially and morally that he stands out in my memory as one of the most remarkable of men. He came to see us in Denison and here quite often. But when we saw him last, only a few months ago, he was looking pitifully feeble, and we wondered how he could dare to travel over the state alone... If I had the time to tell you of his many noble and unselfish services to me since boyhood, you would understand better why I value him so. He forgave me my faults, or rather closed his eyes to them, and loved me regardless of them. I count him one of the cleanest and most cultured gentlemen I ever knew. If he had been a little egotistic and forward and bold, he would have been considered one of our greatest men, for he was a classical scholar, a wide reader, always well informed on current affairs and even on politics and religion. His many-sided talents inclined him to be fickle-minded, changing from one thing to another too often. He couldn't go into a town of any size today in Texas without finding somebody that knew him and loved him. If he had been devoted to politics, he might have been Governor. He would not have made what the politicians call a strong Governor, but his administration would have been clean and sane. If he had chosen permanently the actor's life, he would have been a splendid tragedian or comedian as he might have preferred. I have seen him in our dramatic club at Honey Grove where we built our own building and stage, when he thrilled his audience to tears and sobs, and then convulse them with laughter. If he had chosen to make a preacher in early life and had stuck to that, he would have been one of our foremost pulpit men. As a teacher, he was simply grand, believing in high ideals and implanting them in his pupils. It was often said that he was no great disciplinarian. He and I talked that matter over when he was here a few months ago. He admitted that discipline with a hickory stick wasn't his way. . .

However, we may consider him as one of our safest school men and one of our best citizens. He was not a financial success. He cared so little for money that he never had much of it. And yet he often drew good salaries or made good money otherwise. But take him all in all, he had as little to censure and as much to admire as any man I ever knew. I class him with J. S. Kendall as a prince of men. May his spirit rest in great peace eternally. I shall miss him to the end of life, but I shall meet him when I, too, cross the threshold. Sincerely, H. L. Piner.

Surely a man who could evoke such an eloquent tribute needs no further praise from his own family. Mr. Piner's letters express what they feel better than they could say it themselves, for he wrote from a more objective perspective.

The more conventional obituaries struck a similar, albeit less eloquent, note.

The Daily News-Telegram of Sulphur Springs, which J. M. Dunn had founded, said:

In the passing of Prof. J. M. Dunn, Hopkins County has lost one of her foremost citizens. He has left no great wealth for relatives or friends, but for half a century he has been one of the leading factors in every movement for the betterment of mankind, and, in his modest way, has wielded an influence for the higher standards of living that has touched thousands of lives and made better men and

women of all who came into contact with him. Whether in the school room, in the press, on the platform, in the halls of the State Legislature, or in the private walks of life, he exemplified all that is noble and best in mankind. Though he be dead and shall pass no more among us, his life's work will live on and be a source of comfort to the older ones who were intimately acquainted with him. He was true to his fellowman, to his country, and to the God whom he faithfully served from early childhood. He was called to his final home only after he had completed well the task assigned to him here on earth. He intentionally did no man an injustice, but strove to do good to all alike. He has left a blessed memory. (Editorial, March 8, 1928).

An earlier news item in the Sulphur Springs Gazette of March 5, 1928, was as follows:

Prof. J. M. Dunn Dies in Houston

Prof. James M. Dunn, well known throughout Texas in educational, political, and religious circles, died in Houston Monday night, age 78 years. The greater part of his life was devoted to educational work in Texas. During the days of the existence of Central College here, he served as president of that institution for a long time. Later he moved to Austin to become principal of the School for the Blind, and his long connection with the School for the Blind, and his interest in the blind children of Texas, has distinguished him as being personally known to more blind people of Texas than perhaps any other man. He served as representative from this county in the Thirty-Eighth Legislature.

Four children survive him, Dr. Wm. E. Dunn, of New York City, J. L. Dunn of Houston, Mrs. J. P. Smith of Plainview, and Mrs. Marvin B. Sherwood of Sulphur Springs. The body will be brought here to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Sherwood, and interment will follow in the family grounds at City Cemetery.

News item from the Sulphur Springs News-Telegram, March 6, 1928:

Funeral Services of Prof. J. M. Dunn Thursday Afternoon; The remains of Prof. J. M. Dunn were brought in on the eastbound L. R. & N. this morning, and carried to the home of Mr. and Mrs. M. B. Sherwood. The funeral services will be held Thursday afternoon at the First Methodist Church. Burial will follow in the City Cemetery. Active pallbearers chosen from pupils of Central College: E. R. Brinker, W. A. Buford, Z. F. Tramel, R. B. Carothers, W. C. Rogers, and L. F. Bridges.

A Honey Grove newspaper carried the following item.

Rev. J. M. Dunn Dead

Information was received here this week of the death of Rev. J. M. Dunn, which occurred in Houston on Monday, but no particulars of his death were learned, other than that he was buried in his old home at Sulphur Springs on Thursday, the funeral having been delayed awaiting the arrival of a son from New York.

Rev. Dunn was a well known minister of the Methodist Church, as well as an educator of state-wide reputation, he having at one time been at the head of a school at Sulphur Springs. He has also occupied positions in the State Department at Austin, and was quite well known throughout the State.

He had visited in Honey Grove on several occasions, and had many friends here who will regret to learn of his death.

A Paris newspaper harked back to his boyhood name:

J. Mac Dunn, One-Time Resident of Paris Dies

Former friends here learned with regret Thursday of the death at Houston of J. Mac Dunn, former resident of Paris and of Sulphur Springs. His wife was a Miss Ballinger, of the Paris and Honey Grove family of that name. Mr. Dunn was a former principal of the school for the blind at Austin, and had held various posts over Texas as a teacher. He had served as representative from Hopkins County. Several children survive him. The body was taken from Houston to Sulphur Springs for burial.

Many more of similar notices could be cited, but it seems fitting to end with this letter which was published in the Plainview Evening Herald:

Pays a Tribute to Father of Mrs. J. Pollard Smith

Many things happen in this life that pain the heart. There is much bitter mixed with the sweet, otherwise we could never appreciate the honey of life. There are many thorns surrounding the charming roses that God has planted by the roadside of life. I have tasted the bitterness of life, have had pains about the soul, but one of the most painful messages I have ever experienced was that in the daily press announcing the death of that faithful servant of man, that lover of youth, that noble specimen of manhood, that true and tried instructor of the mind, that Christian gentleman, my teacher and friend, Prof. J. M. Dunn.

He touched the heart of many a youth, and planted there a stimulant that sprang into a noble life. "Ingratitude followed heavily upon his every step, but his soul was too great to complain. He did his duty and left the results with God.

I first met Prof. J. M. Dunn on a bright morning in February, 1887. It was Washington's birthday, and was a new day in my life. It was the beginning of a new life to me. I have been his friend ever since, and loved him better than he knew. A greater title I cannot give to anyone than "friend" and "teacher." He was my friend and he was my teacher, and until I join him "over there", I shall love and revere his memory. Xylander Carson, 732 Elsbeth Street, Dallas, Texas.

Chapter IV of this narrative, on James McMurry Dunn, Ancestor No. 4, is finished. May we, his descendants, be worthy of his memory!

Death of J. M. Dunn's Last Surviving Daughters.— Before closing the chapter on J. M. Dunn, Ancestor No. 4, mention will be made of the deaths of his last two surviving daughters, Mrs. Georgie McMurry Dunn Smith and Mrs. Annie Belle Dunn Sherwood. The latter, the first born of J. Mack and Lucie Dunn's children, was to survive all of her sisters. Georgie went first. She died on March 20, 1942, without issue. On March 23, 1942, James Lewis Dunn wrote to his brother, William Edward, who was then stationed in Guatemala City, Guatemala, after having telephoned him about his sister's

death. He wrote from Lawton, Oklahoma:

At six o'clock last Tuesday evening we received a wire from J. P. stating that Georgie was very ill in Lubbock. . . I reached Lubbock shortly before 11 a.m., and found Georgie to be in a most critical condition, although her case was not considered entirely hopeless. J. P. had brought her down the day before for an examination and X-rays to determine what was causing her indigestion and gastric trouble. She was quite cheerful on the way down from Plainview, laughing and joking, but tired easily during the examination. J. P. thinks the doctor, assistant to Dr. Clark, overtaxed her strength despite warnings. Anyway she had another stroke in the office and almost died then. Dr. Clark told me that the lower part of her right lung was almost solid, caused by a low-grade pneumonia, and that it was that condition that caused her gastric troubles. The fight was to keep the infection from spreading to her left lung, which was slightly affected by the time I reached there. As far as I know, she never did know that I was there, for I did not attempt to arouse her. That was one reason I did not call you Friday night, wanting to spare you as much sudden shock as possible. I just figured that it was not possible for you to come because of the time involved.

While the doctors did not give us any encouragement, they said there was a fighting chance. . . Well, there were any number of sinking spells and they would bring her back with injections, and of course each time she was left in a more weakened condition. The doctor came in around six Friday evening and decided not to go home for dinner, and still Lucie had not shown up. She and Henry (her niece and nephew) did arrive at 6:30, and it seems that Georgie had just been waiting for them. I left the room at a minute or two before 7, and Henry and I went out to sit in his car. . . At five minutes after 7 Lucie found us. She must have died by the time we reached the car, for we were not out there ten minutes in all.

Georgie Dunn Smith was buried in Sulphur Springs in the family plot. Her sister, Mrs. Annie Dunn Sherwood, was in Plainview, and returned to her old home for the funeral. A host of relatives and friends attended the services. Her brother William Edward Dunn, and his family were represented by their daughter, Eugenia Dunn, then a student at the University of Texas. Lewy Dunn ended his letter to his brother as follows:

I guess that is about all. We missed you a lot. The friends in both towns were most helpful--makes you realize that little towns may be the best places to live in after all, and most certainly the best to die in. Lucie is very much torn up. And I don't think there was ever a more devoted couple than J. P. and Georgie. I am rather full of knots myself. Lucie expects to go to Plainview as soon as school is out, and go over her things. . . She certainly lived for others and got so much pleasure out of doing things for others. . . I have made a carbon of this letter, and will send a copy to Bro. Marvin (Sherwood), She always thought so much of him and then Annie can read it, as we did not have much time to talk. I try to find comfort in the realization that if any soul rests in peace, that Georgie's will be the best taken care of, of all. No brothers ever had a more considerate and affectionate sister. My love to you.-Lewy

Another touching tribute was paid Georgie Dunn Smith by her niece, Mrs. Lucie Clift Price, who wrote to her uncle, William Edward Dunn, on March 23, 1942, in part:

Henry and I went out to Lubbock on Friday, but we got there only 15 minutes before she died. I was standing by her bed, and had my hand on her head and watched her as life ebbed away. They had been keeping her alive with oxygen. It seemed like she was just living until I could get there. I kissed her and talked to her and just hope she knew somehow I was there. . . I was so thankful I could be near her at the end. I love her so--I have felt she was more my mother than ever, because she was, even if I was not born from her. Seemed like her life ebbed into mine as she died, and I feel very close to her now.

Georgie Dunn Smith had been the guardian of Dunn family mementos since her mother had died in 1917. She had treasured all of the keepsakes, correspondence, and other relics which had been handed down by her parents. Most of these were turned over to her niece, Mrs. Lucie Clift Price, who now has them in her possession, in trust for the remaining members of the family. Much of this correspondence has been drawn upon for this chapter.<sup>1</sup>

There only remains to record the death of Mrs. Annie Belle Dunn Sherwood, eldest child of J. M. and Lucie Dunn. Unfortunately little material is available to the author on her demise. With her husband, Marvin B. Sherwood, she lived the last years of her life in Crystal City, Texas, near their daughter, Mrs. Kathleen Sherwood Williams (Mrs. Lloyd Williams). She died on December 19, 1955, following a massive thrombosis, shortly after attaining her 85th birthday. She was buried in the Sherwood family plot in Sulphur Springs, Texas, not far from where her father and mother were laid to rest. Her two brothers, Eddie and Lewy, the only surviving members of the J. M. Dunn family were glad that they could be present at the services to honor this last sister, who married and founded a home of her own so early that they did not have the constant associations with her that they did with their other sisters. She too, however, never lost the spirit of love and affection that characterized this closely-knit family. Her husband is still living in Crystal City, in his early nineties, awaiting the summons to join his devoted companion. (He died on July 26, 1960).

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<sup>1</sup>James Pollard Smith, husband of Georgie Dunn Smith, is living at the Forest Drive Rest Home in Columbia, S. C., as of July 1960.

APPENDIXFamily of James McMurry Dunn and Lucie Ballinger Dunn

- A. James McMurry Dunn, born August 25, 1850, near Bradfordsville, Ky., died at Houston, Texas; buried at Sulphur Springs, Texas. Married Lucie Ballinger, January 25, 1870, at Stanford, Ky.
- B. Lucie (Mary Lucretia) Ballinger, born April 29, 1850; in Stanford, Ky; died April 13, 1917, in Austin, Texas; buried at Sulphur Springs, Texas.

Children:

- 1. Annie Belle, born Nov. 24, 1870 in Stanford, Ky; died Dec. 19, 1955 in Crystal City, Texas; buried in Sulphur Springs, Texas. Married Marvin Beverly Sherwood, April 6, 1892, in Sulphur Springs, Texas. Four children.
- 2. Oscar Terry, born Oct. 10, 1872, at Honey Grove, Texas; died May 18, 1873; buried at Honey Grove, Texas.
- 3. George Alrie Ernest, born in Honey Grove, Texas, May 29, 1874; died June 18, 1884, in Sulphur Springs, Texas.
- 4. Maggie Ellen, born in Denison, Texas, Feb. 24, 1876; died April 7, 1907 in Hastings, Oklahoma; buried at Hastings. Married William Henry Clift, November 30, 1897, in Axtell, Texas. Two children: Lucie and Charles Henry Clift.
- 5. Jennie Ballinger, born Feb. 7, 1879 in Honey Grove, Texas; died Oct. 29, 1888, in Sulphur Springs, Texas. Buried in Sulphur Springs.
- 6. Georgie McMurry, born March 15, 1881 in Honey Grove, Texas; died March 20, 1942, in Lubbock, Texas. Married Oct. 28, 1911 in Austin, Texas. No issue. Buried in Sulphur Springs.
- 7. Mary Lucretia, born Dec. 28, 1882, in Daingerfield, Texas; died March 3, 1901, in Waco, Texas. Married Oscar Crow July 7, 1898 in Gatesville, Texas. Buried in Waco. One daughter, Mary. Married Fred Hoetzel; one son, Frederick H. Crow. Died Oct. 6, 1956.
- 8. James Murray, born Aug. 13, 1884, in Sulphur Springs, Texas; died May 1, 1887 in Sulphur Springs; buried in Sulphur Springs.
- 9. William Edward, born March 2, 1888 in Sulphur Springs, Texas. Married Linda Tays on Feb. 9, 1920, in New York City. Living as of July, 1960, in Washington, D.C. (Two children)
- 10. James Lewis, born July 18, 1892 in Sulphur Springs, Texas. Married Flora Reese on July 22, 1917, in San Antonio, Texas. Living as of July, 1960, in Houston, Texas. (Two children)

Surviving Sons.-Children of William Edward and Linda Tays Dunn:

Eugenia Ballinger, born May 4, 1924 in Washington, D.C. Married Edward Carleton Fritz on June 26, 1944 in Pasadena, California. Children: Linda Claire, born Nov. 17, 1945; Gayle Jeannine, born Feb. 5, 1947; Eileen Lenore, born May 1, 1948; Judy Jo, born Feb. 23, 1951 (all in Dallas, Texas). Home: 4144 Cochran Chapel Road, Dallas, Texas.

Paxton Tays Dunn, born in Englewood, New Jersey, Jan. 24, 1928; married Louise Hildreth Meiere on Jan. 22, 1955 in New York City. Children: Edward Lloyd, born Nov. 14, 1955 in New York City; Hildreth Meière, born May 9, 1958 in Washington, D.C. Home: 1515 34th Street, N.W. Washington, D.C.

Children of James Lewis and Flora Reese Dunn:

James Lewis Dunn, Jr., born Aug. 25, 1920; married Barbara Virginia Frischmuth on March 3, 1946: Children: James Lewis Dunn, III, born June 3, 1948; Jeana Suzan, born June 16, 1947.

George William Dunn, born April 10, 1925; married Clare Beyer of Sealey, Texas. Children: Karin Elizabeth, born Dec. 2, 1954; George Lewis, born Dec. 21, 1956; Martha Lynn, born Oct. 22, 1958.

Descendants of Marvin Beverly and Annie Belle Dunn Sherwood:

Marvin Beverly Sherwood, born August 4, 1868, at Duck Creek (near Garland), Texas; died in Crystal City, Texas, on July 26, 1960.

Annie Belle Dunn Sherwood (Nov. 24, 1870-Dec. 19, 1955; married April 6, 1892.)

Children:

1. Murrie Emory, born Jan. 19, 1893, at Sulphur Springs, Texas; died Jan. 6, 1935, in Austin, Texas; buried in Sulphur Springs. Married on Nov. 15, 1912 to Corinna Eldridge, in Sulphur Springs. She was born Sept. 3, 1894 in Sulphur Springs. Children: Alma Ruth, born March 12, 1915, Sulphur Springs, Texas; married Jan. 26, 1943 to Guy Brewer (born May 17, 1913, at Mt. Vernon, Texas.) Children: (1) Deanna Ruth, born Sept. 10, 1944, in Austin, Texas; (2) Linda Margaret, born July 31, 1952, in Austin, Texas.
2. Margaret (Maggie) Sherwood, born Dec. 24, 1896, in Pottsboro, Texas; married Ernest Deakens (1st), Judge Rabel (2nd), and W. F. Nelson (3rd), born Sept. 6, 1876 at Bellplain, Carver Co., Minnesota. No issue.
3. Kathleen Annie Sherwood, born Oct. 6, 1900, at Sulphur Springs, Texas. Married Aug. 10, 1919 in Emory, Texas, to Lloyd Leon Williams, born March 31, 1897, in Dike, Texas. Children: Doris Williams, born March 21, 1921 in Sulphur Springs, Texas; married

in Crystal City, Texas, May 16, 1942 to James Ambrose Laning, Jr., born Jan. 17, 1920, in Llano, Texas. Their children: (1) Sherry Norma Laning, born Dec. 21, 1943, in Crystal City, Texas; (2) Landra Kathleen, born June 10, 1949, in Crystal City; (3) Lane Lloyd, born Oct. 14, 1954 in Crystal City; (4) James Buchannan, born Dec. 5, 1955, in Uvalde, Texas. Rosemary Williams, born Sept. 6, 1926, in Dallas, Texas; married May 31, 1947 in Crystal City to Willis Edward Pond, Jr., born Sept. 12, 1924 in San Antonio, Texas. Children: (1 and 2-twins) Maraba and Marilyn, born Nov. 24, 1951, in Crystal City.

4. Mary Evelyn Sherwood, born July 12, 1909, in Sulphur Springs, Texas; married Nov. 26, 1927, in Sulphur Springs, Texas, to Eugene Clifton Vernon, born Dec. 18, 1903, in Seymour, Texas. Children: (1) Barbara Ann, born July 11, 1932, in Dallas, Texas; married Aug. 21, 1957 in Jackson, Miss., to Clyde Weldon Chapman, born March 16, 1931 in Plaquemine, La. One child: Mary Margaret Kathleen (Kathy) Chapman, born April 18, 1959, San Diego, California. (2) Marvin Eugene, born March 28, 1939, in Dallas, Texas. (3) Gerald Ernest, born April 13, 1943, in Dallas, Texas

Descendants of William Henry and Maggie Ellen Dunn Clift

- A. William Henry Clift, born Feb. 21, 1871; died June 12, 1935. Married Maggie Ellen Dunn Nov. 30, 1897 at Axtell, Texas.
- B. Margaret (Maggie) Ellen Dunn Clift, born Feb. 24, 1876, Denison, Texas, died April 7, 1907. Both buried at Hastings, Jefferson Co., Oklahoma.

Children:

1. Lucie Clift, born August 27, 1900 at Davis, Indian Territory (Okla.); married June 2, 1923 to Pinckney Bryan Price at Sulphur Springs, Texas (divorced 1940).

Children:

- (1) Pinckney Clift Price (M.D.), born Feb. 8, 1924 at Bonham, Texas.
- (2) William Henry Price, born Oct. 31, 1927 at Paris, Texas.
- (3) Nancy Ellen Price, born Aug. 25, 1930, at Fort Smith, Arkansas.

- (1) Pinckney B. Price, Married Gloria Abigail Coryell May 8, 1945, at Montgomery, Alabama. (She was born Aug. 13, 1920, at Bristow, Okla.) Four children: Bradley Bryan Price, born Aug. 20, 1947, at Philadelphia, Pa.; Priscilla Coryell, born Feb. 20, 1951, Galveston, Texas; Nancy Gail, born Feb. 9, 1956 at Austin, Texas; Lewis Clift born July 21, 1958, at Austin.

- (2) William Henry Price (Petroleum Engineer), married Aug. 13, 1955 to Marinette Thornton at El Dorado, Arkansas. She was born Sept. 11 1927 at Warren, Arkansas. Two children: Lucie Renee, born Aug. 4, 1956 at Pratt, Kansas. Mary Lou, born April 7, 1958 at Austin, Texas.
- (3) Nancy Ellen Price, married to Thornton Hardie Bowman III, on Nov. 24, 1948, at Austin, Texas. He was born Jan. 5, 1925. Children: Thornton Hardie Bowman IV, born Feb. 15, 1950, at Austin, Texas. William Clift Bowman, born May 3, 1958, at Austin

Descendants of Mary Lucretia Dunn Crow

Mary Lucretia Dunn, born Dec. 28, 1882 in Daingerfield, Texas; died March 3, 1901, in Waco, Texas. Married Oscar Crow, July 2, 1898 in Gatesville, Texas. One child, Mary Crow, born Feb. 28, 1901, died Oct. 6, 1956 in Dallas, Texas. Married (1) Fred. Hoetzel. One son, Frederick H. Crow (Commander, U. S. Navy, ret.), of Waco, Texas. (2) Tony Wright, Dallas, Texas. (Specific dates not available as yet.)

Author's Note: If and when a revised printed edition of this narrative is published, it is hoped that the lineages of many more descendants of William Dunn and his four sons will be included. Any additional photographs and other ancestral mementos will also be welcomed. Materials should be mailed to William E. Dunn, 4000 Cathedral Avenue, N.W., Washington 16, D.C.

Lineage of John T. Embry, Stanford, NC.

Benjamin Dunn m. Margaret Hoeller  
 B. 1862 in Maryland (Aug 12) S. 1775 (Jan. 16) m. Mrs.  
 D. 1851 (April 11) D. 1855 (Mar. 19)

Benjamin Dunn m. m. Peggy McHenry  
 B. 1778 (Mar. 9) S. 1789 (Mar. 9)  
 D. 1849 (Aug. 4) D. 1844

George Dunn m. m. in 1828 (Dec. 9)  
 B. 1804 (June 30)  
 D. 1890 (Feb. 6)

John Scammon m. m. in 1828 (Dec. 9)  
 B. Feb. 7, 1810  
 D. May 8, 1864

Benjamin Wesley Dunn m. Fannie McHenry  
 B. 1831  
 D. 1871

George Burton Dunn Annie Eliza Dunn  
 B. 1866 m. Leslie Edder  
 D. 1950 William Dunn (now in Belgium)  
 & children - Edward Dunn (now lives near Atlanta)

George Dunn m. m. in 1891 (see Thomas Embry)  
 B. 1871  
 D. 1930 (in June)

Harvey Helen Embry Harvey Helen Embry  
 m. Ann Hutchison  
 m. Margaret, 11. (L.  
 Stanford, Ky.)

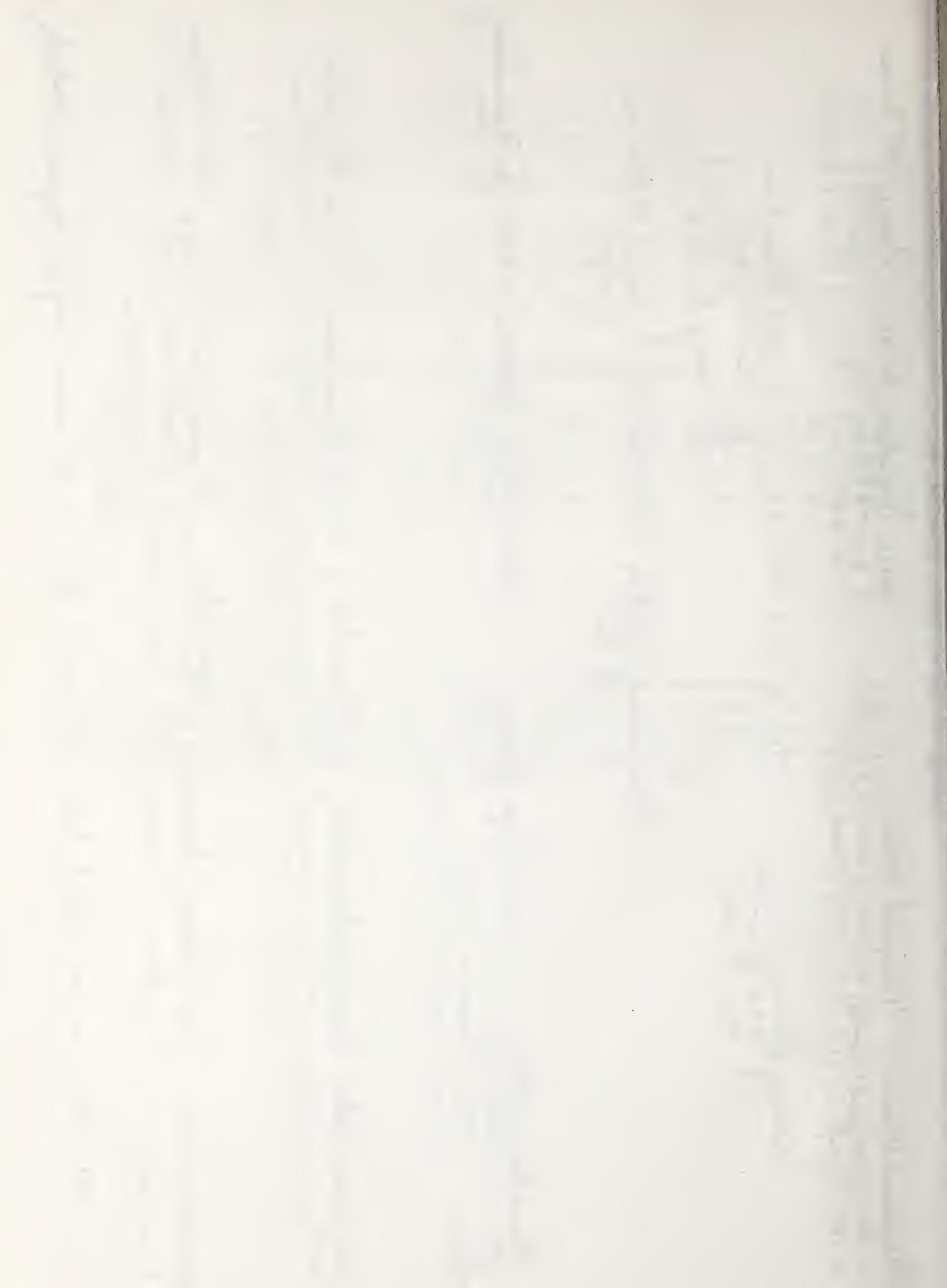
Harvey Helen Embry Juel Thomas Embry  
 m. Elizabeth Harper (died) m. Harold W. Davis  
 m. - + Louise Petter May Julian, 11. (L.  
 Stanford, Ky.)

Wesley Dunn Embry Juel Thomas Embry  
 m. Freda Churchwell m. Annie Lamerent  
 (Stanford, Ky.) Springfield, Ill.

John Embry Sarah Ann Embry  
 John Embry graduated in music at  
 Mark A. Harris & College  
 in Harry  
 in Air Corps

John Thomas  
 John G. Schore  
 High School  
 in College  
 living in Memphis

Note: This is our direct line - of course yours is the same beyond Benjamin Wesley Dunn.



1959  
August 19

**DR. WILLIAM E. DUNN, NOTED TEXAS SCHOLAR ON INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS, RETIRES AS DIRECTOR, INTER-AMERICAN SCHOOLS SERVICE, AMERICAN COUNCIL ON EDUCATION**

Mr. PATMAN. Mr. Speaker, I should like to call to the attention of my colleagues a news story circulated to the Latin American press by Harry W. Frantz of United Press International about the retirement of Dr. William E. Dunn as Director of the Inter-American Schools Service Committee of the American Council of Education.

Dr. Dunn is a distinguished Texan, born in Sulphur Springs in my congressional district on Texas Independence Day, March 2, 1888.

Dr. Dunn's father, Prof. J. M. Dunn, was a well-known educator and in his later years served in the Texas Legislature from Hopkins County. Dr. Dunn and his brother, J. L. Dunn, of Houston, are the only survivors of 10 children born to Professor and Mrs. Dunn.

Under leave to extend my remarks, I am glad to give credit to Mr. Harry W. Frantz, United Press International, for the following news story about Dr. Dunn:

**DR. WILLIAM E. DUNN RETIRES FROM INTER-AMERICAN SCHOOLS SERVICE COMMITTEE**

(By Harry W. Frantz)

WASHINGTON, July 19.—Dr. William E. Dunn is completing this month a half-century of Inter-American activities which have extended to the capital of every American republic.

Some diplomatic observers estimate him to be the North American best informed about Latin America, due to the number and range of his diplomatic, economic, educational and journalistic posts.

He will resign July 31 as director of the Inter-American Schools Service of the American Council on Education, a post which he assumed in October 1955, succeeding Roy Tasco Davis.

In earlier decades, Dunn was best known as a commercial and financial adviser, in both official and unofficial capacities. At various times his work was of special significance to Argentina, Colombia, Peru, Haiti, and the Dominican Republic.

Dunn started his career as a printer's devil on the Sulphur Springs (Tex.) Gazette when he was 12 years old. He was educated in Latin American history in the Universities of Texas, Stanford, and Columbia.

He did much research work in archives of Mexico City and later in the Spanish Colonial Archives at Sevilla, Cadiz, and Simanca.

In 1919 the celebrated publisher, Frank Munsey, sensed the rising importance of Inter-American relations and made Dunn Latin American editor of the New York Sun-Herald.

After a few years in journalistic, mercantile and banking activities pertaining to Latin America, Dunn went to Peru with an educational mission to help plan a school of commerce. He remained in Lima as United States Trade Commissioner.

He served as Director General of Internal Revenue for Haiti in the period of 1924-27. Returning to Wall Street, he worked on arrangements for bond issues of numerous Latin American countries. Next he served as financial adviser to the Dominican Republic, 1931 through 1933.

He then became Assistant Director of the United States Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce. Thereafter he served as United States Commercial Attaché in Buenos Aires and a combined post as Commercial Attaché for Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras.

In 1942 he worked on defense materials projects in the State Department in relation to Spain and Portugal. In 1943 he became Counsellor for Economic Affairs in the Embassy of Bogotá and 2 years later was assigned to a similar post in Santiago, Chile.

In various years he served with unofficial financial and commercial missions engaged by Colombia, Venezuela and Peru, and gained reputation as one of the preeminent "experts" of the United States in inter-American relations.

After his retirement from the State Department, Dunn returned to his first love, education, in 1953 as Director of the Inter-American Schools Service of the American Council on Education. Under his direction there has been a large increase in financial aid to 300 American-type schools throughout the hemisphere, most of which are attended by nationals as well as United States children in the various republics. Technical counsel to educators, providing teachers and equipment and bilingual instruction have been widely extended in the 300-odd schools.

Asked for a net conclusion about his hemisphere-wide experience, Dunn said:

"I believe that inter-American educational cooperation is one of the most effective and acceptable approaches for a betterment of Western Hemisphere relations. It is helpful to the people of both the United States and Latin America. Bilingual instruction has made it much easier for Latin American stu-

dents to qualify for entrance in United States universities.

"We have not tried to replace any Latin American educational system, but have tried to supplement the opportunities for children of all countries."



## A Résumé of William E. Dunn, as of Dec. 1, 1949

### LATIN AMERICAN BACKGROUND AND EXPERIENCE OF WILLIAM E. DUNN

#### U. S. BUSINESS EXPERIENCE:

Assistant Export Manager, Simmons Hardware Co., St. Louis and New York City, 1920-21.

Manager, Latin American Department, Redmond & Co., Investment Bankers, New York City, 1927-29.

Manager, Foreign Department, Foreman-State Corporation (Investment Affiliate of Foreman-State National Bank), Chicago and New York City, 1927-30.

#### LATIN AMERICAN GOVERNMENT EXPERIENCE:

Adviser on Higher Commercial Education, Republic of Peru, 1921.

Director General of Internal Revenues, Republic of Haiti, 1924-27.

Secretary-General, Kemmerer Financial Mission to Colombia, 1930.

Financial Adviser and Special Emergency Agent, Dominican Republic, 1931-33.

#### U. S. GOVERNMENT EXPERIENCE:

Trade Commissioner and Acting Commercial Attaché, U. S. Embassy, Lima, Peru, 1921-24.

Assistant Director, Bureau of Foreign & Domestic Commerce, Washington, D. C., 1934-37.

Commercial Attaché, U. S. Embassy, Buenos Aires, Argentina, 1937-39; idem, Guatemala City, 1940-42.

Adviser on Iberian Peninsula Affairs, Division of Defense Materials, Dept. of State, 1942-43.

Counselor for Economic Affairs, U. S. Embassy, Bogotá, Colombia, 1943-45; idem, Santiago, Chile, 1945-47.

Chief of Coordination Staff, Office of Intelligence Research, Department of State, 1947-49.

Political Adviser on Latin America, United States Delegation to the United Nations, April-May, 1949.

#### EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:

B. A., University of Texas, 1909; M. A., Stanford University, 1910; Ph. D., Columbia University, 1917.

Instructor and Associate Professor of Latin American History, University of Texas, 1913-17.

Historical research, General Archives of the Indies, Seville, Spain, 1914; 1915-16.

Presently Lecturer on Latin American Economic Problems, School of Advanced International Studies, Washington, D. C.

#### MISCELLANEOUS:

Author of *Commercial and Industrial Handbook on Peru* (1925) and of numerous historical monographs in the Latin American field.

Fluent knowledge of Spanish, French and Portuguese.

Personal familiarity with all of the twenty republics of Latin America and Spain.

Member of the Metropolitan Club and of the Cosmos Club, Washington, D. C.

WM. E. DUNN  
4000 Cathedral Ave., N. W.  
Washington 16, D. C.

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